

Algonquin
Provincial Park

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Master Plan

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Introduction

1

Government
Publication

*Ont. Ministry of Natural Resources,
[General publications]
[G-28]*

Algonquin, the first Provincial Park in Ontario and the forerunner of the over one hundred parks that now make up the provincial park system, is in many respects a historic benchmark. It has played a significant—although not often visible—role in determining management and development policies for other parks in the province. Many management techniques in current use had their origin in Algonquin. This master plan includes additional new management techniques and directions designed to meet both existing and foreseeable recreation and resource demands.

The origins of Algonquin go back before 1893 when the government of the day acted on a recommendation of the Royal Commission on Forest Reservation and National Park in "reserving a portion of the ungranted Crown domain to be set apart as a Forest Reservation and National Park."

The report submitted by the Commissioners reflected commendable foresight in all aspects of land management. Forest preservation and conservation, climatic influences, soil, watershed and wildlife protection, recreation, logging and other topics were all discussed in learned language. The Commissioners were visionary in the extent to which they projected the ends to be attained by the reservation or park. These included the "maintenance of water supply in a half dozen major water systems, preservation of a primeval forest, protection of birds and animals, a field for experiments in forestry, a place of health resort, and beneficial effects on climate."

Another important element of the establishment of the Park is that Alexander Kirkwood, one of the Commissioners, and the Senior Officer of the Lands Branch of the Department of Crown Lands, intended that forest management would be practised. Kirkwood was very interested in introducing some classical European forest management systems into Ontario.

Another Commissioner, James Dickson, a Provincial Land Surveyor and Inspector of Surveys for the Province, clearly identified the Park area with recreational use. The report of the Commissioners discusses the use of Algonquin as a refuge from city conditions and as a health resort.

Since the original purposes are compatible with more recently expressed interests, then it is reasonable to state that, generally speaking, Algonquin Park serves its original purposes as well as many of the interests currently being expressed by the various elements within society. At the same time, it is acknowledged that until comparatively recent times, a less intensive management system provided for the bulk of the demands on the Park. However, changes in technology, affluence, leisure time and the concern for open space have resulted in user conflicts and tensions. It was this situation that prompted the province to establish mechanisms to re-evaluate the current and projected uses of the Park and identify the goals or expectations of many interest groups.

In 1968, a Provisional Master Plan for the Park was completed and released. Prepared by the staff of the former Department of Lands and Forests under the leadership of T.W. Hueston, at that time the Park Superintendent, its primary objective was to provide a basis for public comment.

Public hearings were held immediately in Pembroke, Huntsville and Toronto. Many submissions, both written and verbal, were presented along with much correspondence from interested individuals.

Subsequently, the Algonquin Park Task Force was appointed. It was comprised of a group of civil servants appointed to study the submissions and to research and document the issues and alternatives.

In 1969, the Algonquin Park Advisory Committee was created. Membership represented the broad range of interests associated with Algonquin Park, in order to incorporate the ideas and thinking of the various interest groups in the evaluation of alternatives and the recommendation of policies.

The Task Force then assumed the additional responsibility of providing technical assistance to the Advisory Committee. An economic impact study and nearly forty background and study papers were prepared by Task Force members and presented to the Advisory Committee.

Commencing in April of 1970, through until July of 1973, the Advisory Committee submitted a total of thirty-six recommendations. As these were received, Ministry staff carried out in-depth analyses of the potential implications and consequences. Ultimately, sufficient input, data and analyses were available to permit thorough consideration by the government. Approval was given and the recommendations provided the basis for the government policy announced for Algonquin Park in July of 1973, and the framework within which this master plan was prepared.



Goals

looking
at conflict
of econ goal

The policies for Algonquin Park announced by the government in July of 1973 were made with the Park being considered within a regional and provincial context. The Park does not exist in a vacuum—it relates to, and is part of, a region bounded by the communities of Pembroke, North Bay, Huntsville and Bancroft (Figure 1). The region is approximately nine thousand square miles or about three times the area of the Park.

Primary forest products manufacturing and tourism are the foundation of employment opportunities for the local people. The Park is dominant in timber production activities within the region. It also acts as a major tourist attraction. Consequently, continuing productivity of the resource base in the Park is important to the Provincial economy and critical to the livelihood of the regional communities.

Algonquin's use by the people of the Province has been growing rapidly. It is projected that use during the next thirty years will increase at about three times the rate of population increase in Ontario. This anticipated demand will be limited by the carrying capacity of the Park itself and can only be met by major additions to facilities and new access routes.

The regional goal describes the role of the Park within the regional framework.

Goal for the Region

To maintain the economic base for local communities and to continue to provide Ontario residents with a diversity of recreational opportunities.

The needs of people living within the region are given special emphasis in the regional goal. The need to maintain a suitable level of economic activity in the region is recognized.

It is the objective to provide within the region a variety of recreational experiences. Recreation is defined in its broadest sense to encompass educational and scientific study and activities of psychological and physiological enjoyment. Diversity refers to day use and to overnight opportunities ranging from hotel-motel accommodations to wilderness canoeing and camping. This can be accomplished by a combination of public and private programs.

Recognizing that Algonquin Park has provincial as well as regional implications, the provincial goal for the Park follows:

Goal for Algonquin Park

To provide continuing opportunities for a diversity of low intensity recreational experiences, within the constraint of the contribution of the Park to the economic life of the region.

A low intensity recreational experience requires that there be attractive, unspoiled areas in the Park where visitor density is low and the trappings of modern civilization do not destroy the feeling of a back-to-nature interlude. In essence, Algonquin Park, which is readily accessible to large segments of urban Ontario residents, should be a natural environment where people of average means can escape for a while from the ever increasing pressures of urban living.

Algonquin is a provincial heritage which should be preserved by enlightened environmental management. Among the values contributed to the people of Ontario are: a wilderness recreational environment; a headwater area of clear flowing lakes, rivers and streams; a wide variety of plants and animals; and an environment which has traditionally contributed important resource products to the people of Ontario.

The outstanding feature of Algonquin Park is that it places within easy reach of the vast urban populations of northeastern North America a reasonable example of the wilderness that covered this land before it was occupied by Europeans. Even if the present forest is somewhat different from the original, the "feel" of wilderness is still there, and it requires only a little imagination to visualize its primeval state.

Since the establishment of Algonquin Park just over 80 years ago, management policies have aimed at protecting and perpetuating the recreational character of the Park, particularly the lands with unique water-related characteristics in the vicinity of lakes, streams, portages and trails. This policy will be continued. However, in addition, significant natural ecosystems within Algonquin will be perpetuated in as near pristine conditions as possible in representative areas and larger landscape units.

The role of Algonquin within the social and economic fabric of the regional community is defined by the regional goal. Thus, Algonquin will continue to contribute to resource production activities in the region.

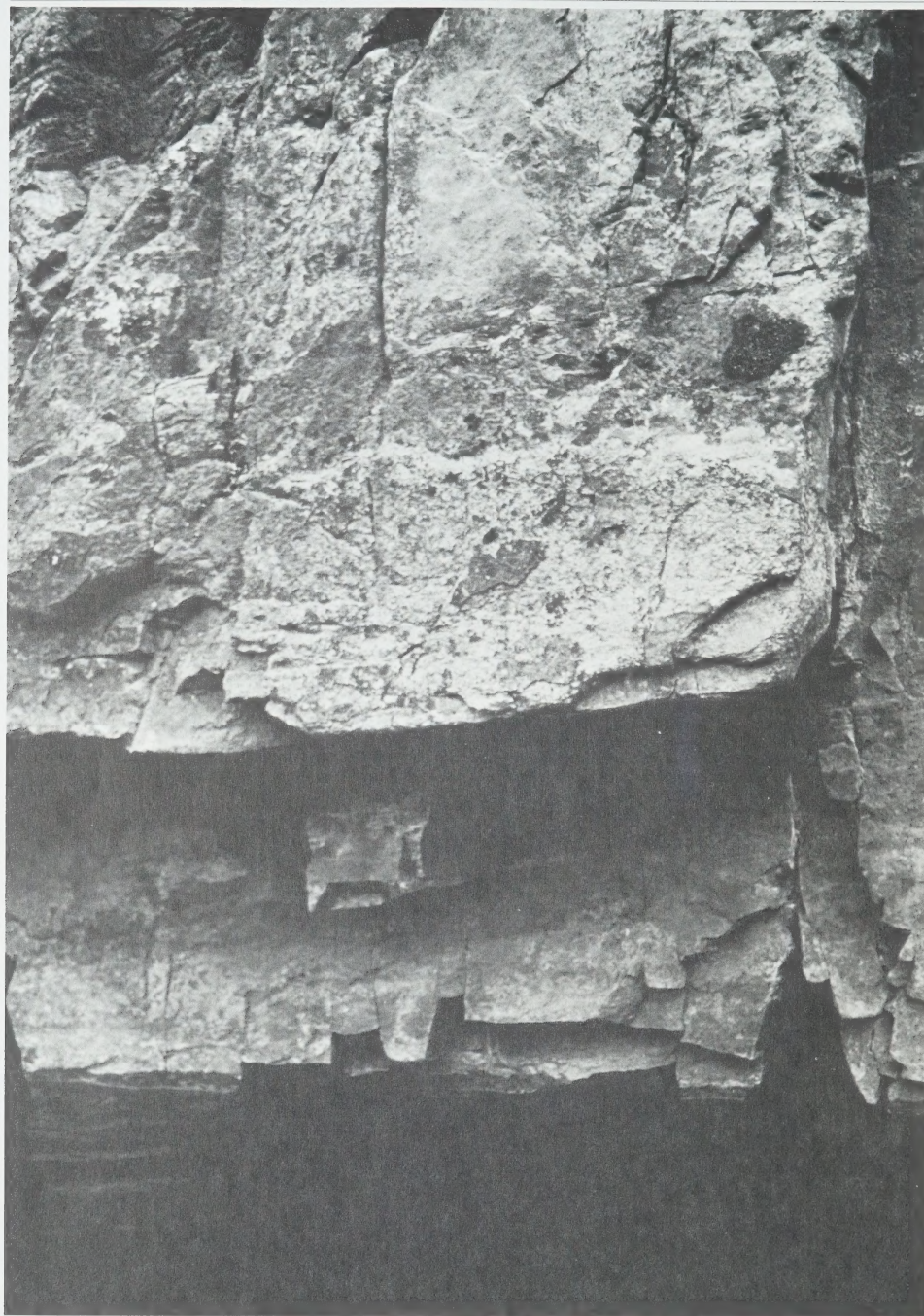
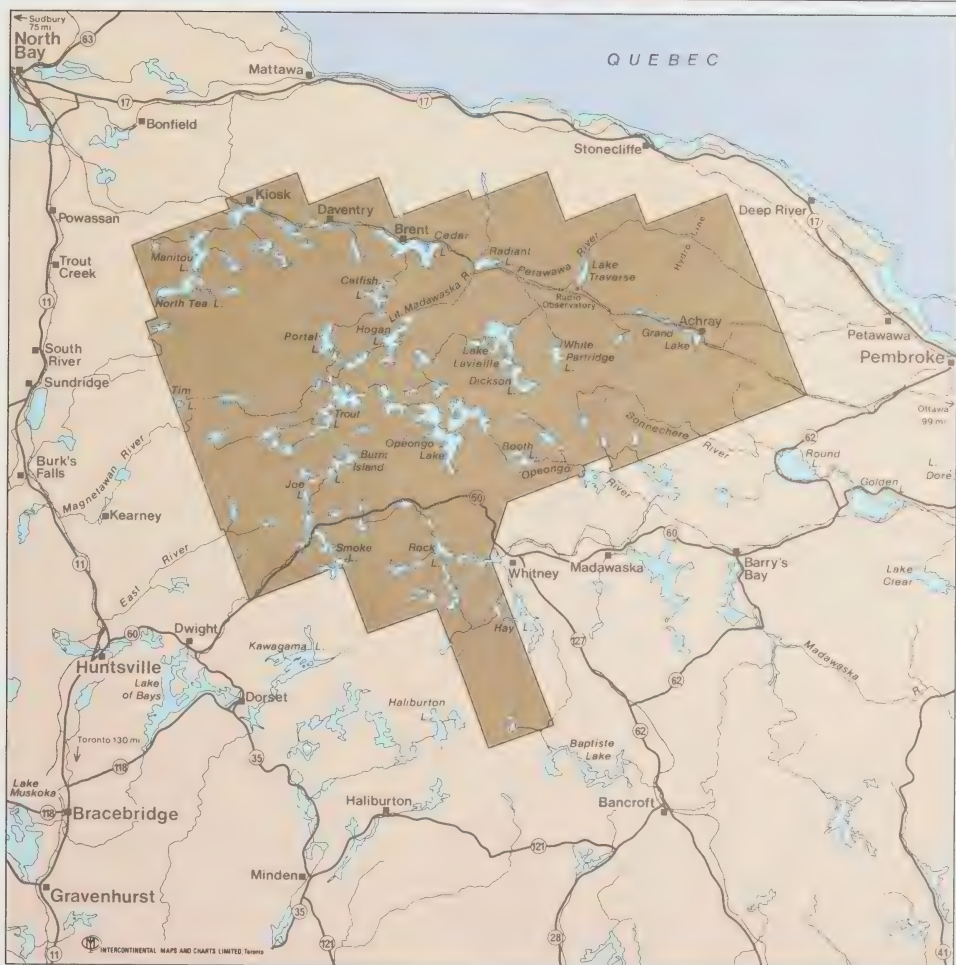


Figure 1

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Algonquin Park and Surrounding Region



Scale: One inch equals 16 miles





Objectives

The following objectives have been established to achieve both the regional and Park goals:

Regional Objectives

(1) *To stimulate regional tourism.*

Regional tourism can be measured by the number of visitors to the area and the number of dependent industries and jobs.

The following tourism policies will apply throughout the region surrounding Algonquin Park:

(a) A series of Provincial Parks will be established which will attract and encourage tourism.

(b) Access corridors to the Algonquin Park perimeter will be developed to encourage the distribution of tourist benefits.

(c) The private sector of the economy, including private campgrounds and resort operators, will be encouraged to participate in a complementary manner in the provision of regional tourist services outside the Park.

(2) *To develop an information program which will make tourists fully aware of the variety of recreational opportunities provided by the public and private sectors in the region.*

(3) *To ensure the flow of forest products throughout the region.*

Park Objectives

The goal for Algonquin Park gives direction in three major areas. These include: the need to provide a variety of low intensity recreational opportunities, including scientific and educational benefits; the need to provide for a defined level of yield of forest and resource products; and the need to maintain a quality environment. The following major objectives and management policies will direct future planning and management toward the achievement of the Park goal.

Recreation

(1) *To provide for quality wilderness recreational opportunities.* Algonquin Provincial Park, the largest canoe-camping park in Ontario, occupies 1,862,500 acres of land and water. Water makes up approximately 15 percent of the area and allows for 1,500 miles of canoe routes.

The following major policies will be implemented to ensure achievement of the above objective:

(a) Wilderness areas encompassing 166,500 acres and providing an estimated 100,000 user days of recreation annually will be established. These areas will be managed in a near pristine state to accommodate users seeking to experience the Algonquin environment as it once may have been.

(b) Recreation/resource utilization areas, encompassing 1,527,000 acres and providing an estimated 260,000 user days of recreation annually, will be established. These will be managed for back country activities such as canoeing and hiking. Resource utilization will take place in a discreet manner to ensure the visitor's perception of the natural qualities of the Algonquin landscape.

(c) A total of 28 access and 8 departure points will be located strategically on the perimeter of the Algonquin interior to distribute use throughout the Park and to ensure optimum use of interior recreational opportunities without crowding or congestion.

(d) Intensively developed and amenity-oriented recreational facilities will be located outside the Park.

(e) To ensure the quiet enjoyment of nature within Algonquin Park, the use of snowmobiles and other types of off-road vehicles will be permitted for Park management purposes only. The one exception is on the hydro line service road in Clyde Township, where current snowmobile use will be subject to review.

The use of motor boats will be phased out as soon as possible.

(2) To provide for a variety of extensive recreational activities.

New land travel routes, such as hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails, horseback riding trails and, in special locations, scenic roads will be established. In addition, selected activities such as fishing, historical appreciation and hunting will be managed in a manner which complements the natural qualities of the Park.

The following management policies will be implemented in order to achieve this objective:

(a) Alienated lands within the Park will be acquired or the associated authority permitted to expire. These lands will then be made available for public purposes.

(b) The opportunity for the public to gain an initial appreciation of Algonquin through day visits will continue. Facilities and services will be incorporated for an anticipated 520,000 users annually by 1990. This can be achieved without infringement on the interior. Day use programs will emphasize the natural, educational, scientific and historical aspects of the Park.

(c) Continued provision will be made for car-oriented camping both within and outside of the Park.

Within the Park, only a modest expansion of facilities can be permitted without infringement upon the interior. A maximum of 2,000 sites providing for an estimated 500,000 camper days annually will be available within the 115 square mile Algonquin parkway corridor. Current facilities will be redesigned at a lower density and provision made for more walk-in and boat-in sites. Two additional car-oriented camping units of 125 sites at Basin Lake and 250 sites at Stratton Lake will be developed to accommodate existing use patterns. They will act as excellent access areas to the interior and complement interior use patterns, while providing an additional 32,000 camper days annually.

The remainder of the car-oriented camping pressure on Algonquin will be met outside the Park in selected provincial park, private park and resort area developments.

(d) Algonquin Park will be managed to provide for quality angling for native trout species.

The Park is one of the great natural fisheries in Ontario. The fishery will be protected from introductions of undesirable competing species through a ban on use and possession of live bait fish in Park waters.

(e) The Townships of Bruton and Clyde, recent additions at the southern extremity of the Park, will continue to be managed to provide low intensity public hunting opportunities.

The balance of the Park will remain closed to hunting.



Research and Education

(1) To provide a Park interpretive program which will orient visitors to Algonquin's special qualities and provide them with an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the purpose, environment and history of the Park.

It is intended that every Park visitor be provided with information, orientation and facilities required to enhance his stay.

(2) To establish as scientific benchmarks, areas preserving Algonquin's representative and unique ecosystems and qualities.

The Park is strategically located in the transition zone between northern and southern ecosystems. This provides a rich diversity of flora and fauna. Natural areas will be designated within the Park and protected to permit the study of their individual qualities.

The plan provides for an estimated 80,000 acres of natural areas.

(3) To protect and manage the historical and cultural resources of Algonquin Park for educational and research purposes.

The plan provides for the protection of some 86 areas totalling 5,000 acres. Pending further field research, it may be necessary to expand this area to 7,000 acres.

(4) To encourage scientific research which will aid in understanding the Park and its resources.



Resource Products

(1) To provide sufficient forest products to sustain dependent industries at current levels of utilization.

The current level of utilization of Park forest products varies from 15 to 17 million cubic feet per annum.

This objective will be implemented by the Algonquin Forestry Authority which will be responsible for harvesting and distributing forest products from the Park to dependent manufacturing centres. The Authority will operate in accordance with management techniques designated in this plan.

(2) To manage the forests of the Park at required levels for forest products, while maintaining aesthetic qualities for recreational purposes.

The master plan provides for the following major policies to implement this objective:

(a) The forest will be managed according to the silvicultural systems developed for the Park.

(b) The Ministry will designate all timber cut for commercial purposes.

(c) Controls will be applied in locating all roads, water and portage crossings.

(d) Special prescriptions and reservations will be employed in maintaining or restoring an undisturbed vegetative appearance in areas viewed by the recreating public.

(3) To limit the harvest of commercial fur within the Park.

Harvesting of furbearers has traditionally taken place in the Townships of Bruton and Clyde and more recently in the eastern part of the Park.

The following management policies will be applied to limit this program:

(a) Trapping in Bruton and Clyde Townships will continue only as long as required by local residents.

(b) Trapping in the eastern part of the Park will be shifted substantially to the east, out of the central lakes region. This will improve access for trappers from the Golden Lake Band.

Environment

The maintenance of a quality environment is the single most significant means of ensuring the quality of recreational and forestry uses of the Park. The following specific objectives have been established for environmental quality:

(1) To maintain the volume and quality of Park waters.

A water management plan will be developed to monitor and control the above-noted factors.

(2) To maintain the variety of Park ecosystems and existing environmental conditions.

The maintenance of representative Park ecosystems will ensure the diversity of species native to the area. Environmental conditions range from the pristine reserves to protected deer yarding areas, to pioneer succession following wildfire, to a variety of managed forest types and stages.

The plan provides for specific management policies for the full range of situations.

(3) To maintain the Park in public ownership and prevent the destruction of its qualities and character through the imposition of incompatible land uses.

The principal policy to achieve this objective is the prohibition of further through highways, utility corridors and installations.

Mining will not be permitted within the Park.

(4) To maintain the recreational environment of the Park.

Planning for all forest operations will be approved by the Park administration and be carried out under its direct supervision by the Algonquin Forestry Authority.

Visitor use quotas, as determined under the recreational objectives, will ensure opportunities for experiences in keeping with a quality natural environment.



Overall Plan

Classification and Zoning

In the case of Algonquin there are two levels of planning: overall and area. The overall plan deals with classification, zoning and management policies in a Park-wide context. The discussion of these topics indicates the means of achieving the broad objectives for the region and the Park. By comparison, the area plans indicate the means of achieving specific objectives for the Algonquin parkway corridor, the interior canoe-camping area and the external perimeter recreation system.

A factor which had to be considered by the government in arriving at a policy decision was the extent to which Algonquin Park represents but one element, albeit an important one, in the provincial parks system. There are one hundred and fifteen operating parks in the system, along with a number of others in various stages of development. Each park has a designation under the park classification system and in total the system provides a diversity of environments and a variety of recreational opportunities.

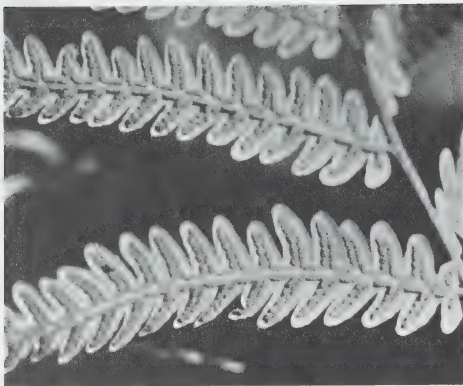
Classification

Algonquin Provincial Park is designated a *natural environment park*. It will be planned, zoned and managed in accordance with policies for this class.

Natural environment parks are established primarily to provide a wide variety of non-intensive recreational opportunities within an environment of educational, recreational and scientific significance.

Zoning

Every public interest group has a different philosophy of how the Park should be used. But the characteristics of Algonquin and existing use patterns are such that only a limited flexibility can be allowed without significant loss of Park values. Zoning provides a means of management, administrative and development control that will establish an appropriate balance between acceptable uses and developments which are compatible with the purpose of the Park. Only through zoning is there assurance that long range programs can be designed to meet objectives. There were three principal considerations in zoning Algonquin Park: preservation, visitor use, and forest products supply. Establishment of natural, historic and primitive zones was given priority over access, development and recreation zones. In turn, all of these zone types were given priority over recreation/utilization zones within the limit determined by the current contribution of Park forest products to the region's economy.



The zoning system for Algonquin is as follows:

Natural Zones

The meeting of northern and southern ecosystems in transition in the Park is a dominant theme of Algonquin's natural values. In all, 63 natural zones ranging in size from a few to more than 13,000 acres each and totalling 71,730 acres, have been established to date in the Park (Figure 2).¹ They are the result of five years of intensive scientific field investigation. Several gaps remain in the natural zone system and these will be closed with the establishment of additional areas after the 1974 and 1975 field seasons. The final system of natural zones will encompass about 80,000 acres of Park land.

The Algonquin natural zone system consists of the following types of components:

Black Spruce-Tamarack Forest	Jack Pine Forest
and Bogs	White Pine Forest
Marshes	Silver Maple Forest
Hardwood Forests	Unique Botanical Areas
Hemlock Forest	Cliffs and Rock Faces
Red Pine Forest	Natural Disturbances
Red Spruce Forest	Watersheds.

Historic Zones

Man's traditional dependence upon the resources of the Park is a dominant theme of Algonquin's historic values. Intensive field and archival investigation over four years have dealt with more than three hundred areas of historic significance and a comparable number of archaeological sites. Continuing field work, study and analysis will complete an historic zone system in two to three years.

A final set of archaeological zones has not yet been established as some upland field studies remain to be conducted. Of the 300 shoreline sites investigated to date, 38 representative or unique sites, or collections of sites, have been set aside to be protected for future study and interpretation. These sites are well distributed through the Park watersheds. They were most frequently campsites which were used by succeeding Indian cultures in much the same way as they are by the interior canoe-campers of today.

Additional field study of post-European contact values needs to be conducted. More than 300 sites have been investigated and future field work will involve the study of the history and architecture of 150 additional sites.

Forty-eight historic zones have been designated. This constitutes an interim proposal pending completion of the historical inventory of the Park. The Algonquin historic zone system consists of the following types of components:

Camboose Camps	Ranger Cabins
Depots and Farms	Miscellaneous Historic Sites
Lumber Camps	Interpretive Sites.

These sites range in size from a few to nearly 1,000 acres as in the case of the Mowat townsite. In all, more than 5,000 acres are currently set aside for historic purposes in 86 areas and soon this may be expanded to about 7,000 acres.

Primitive Zones

The Algonquin parkway corridor bounds a forty-mile section of Highway 60 that cuts through the southwest corner of the Park dividing the interior into two blocks. The southern block is more than one-quarter million acres; the northern, more than one and one-half million acres.

Two special areas exist in the interior immediately north and south of the parkway corridor. These contain the best natural wilderness areas existing in Southern Ontario because evidence of technological and industrial impact of man is limited and almost non-existent since 1940. As applied to Algonquin Park, this refers specifically to evidence of logging, railways, hydro lines and buildings.

These areas, which were selected on the basis of their being the best natural landscapes in the Park in an ecological sense, have been established as the cores of the primitive zones. To these nuclei have been added adjacent lands in the central lakes region of Algonquin, lands best capable of expanding the Park's recreational wilderness area. The central lakes region, with its numerous large lakes, has greater canoe-camping capability than any other region of the Park. Elimination of logging and the use of motor boats will enhance the wilderness quality of these lands and allow their incorporation within primitive zones.

Total area of the northern Algonquin primitive zone is 125,650 acres. The southern zone is 40,850 acres.

¹See insert.





Recreation Zones

Three recreation zones totalling approximately 80,000 acres have been established in the Park. They include development zones for existing and potential facilities such as campgrounds, interpretive areas and concessions, and some of the interior access zones. Recreation zones also encompass lands used for walking trails, day canoeing areas and other low intensity recreation.

The Algonquin parkway corridor is the largest recreation zone in the Park. It covers more than 73,500 acres, but is not an expansion of the existing Highway 60-oriented recreation area. The two remaining small recreation zones are on the east side of the Park. They provide for access, recreational activities and accommodation that could not be developed through the later-described perimeter park system.

Access Zones

Access zones include approximately 2,000 acres. They provide a valuable means of designing, controlling and dispersing use of Algonquin in a manner most compatible with the purpose and values of the Park.

The high capacity parkway will remain as the major access area. Interior access will be permitted at ten locations along this corridor.

Eighteen other access points around the boundary of the Park will be linked with the perimeter program. In addition, downstream access from Algonquin will be developed on eight rivers in the perimeter program.



Recreation/Utilization Zones

The remainder of Algonquin Park, 1,527,000 acres, falls into the recreation/utilization zone category. As the name implies, low intensity recreation has first priority in this zone, to the full extent of the land's recreational capability. This means that the canoe-camping opportunities in Algonquin Park are not influenced quantitatively by forest utilization activities. There are cases, however, where the quality of experience is influenced. Some canoeists are only satisfied by being in the true or pure wilderness situation found in primitive zones. This means the complete absence of observed evidence of modern civilization, as well as the knowledge that such evidence does not exist in the general area in which they canoe. Both the actual observation and the mental perception of wilderness characteristics are important to this segment of the canoeist population.

Another group is satisfied with canoeing through an area where there is little or no evidence of civilization or logging. If there is neither sight nor sound of civilization on the canoe route, the experience for the group is satisfactory.

The basic principle in recreation/utilization zones is to separate as much as possible the activities of forest management, harvesting and associated construction of interior roads from the sight and sound of interior recreationists. This has been successfully accomplished by the strategy for management of the interior. Thus, more than 70,000 acres of areas are reserved from cutting along public roads, portages, the Canadian National Railway right-of-way, the Park boundary and all waters in the Park. Within recreation/utilization zones, there are also 61,500 acres of winter yarding areas that are managed to the advantage of white-tailed deer as well as for the production of timber. The remaining area, while available for visitor use, has significantly lower activity potential than the recreational reserves.



Classification and Zoning Summary

The effect of the zoning system is to place 21.8 percent of Algonquin Park in zone types where forest harvesting will not be permitted. Conifer cutting is restricted in deer yards encompassing 3.3 percent of the Park area. Forest harvesting in the remaining 74.9 percent of Algonquin is strictly controlled and confined each year to a number of small areas spaced through the Park. The total area on which harvesting occurs annually is about 20,000 acres or one percent of the Park.

<i>Zone Type</i>	<i>Area in Acres</i>	<i>Percentage of Park Area</i>
Natural	80,000	4.3%
Historic	7,000	0.4%
Primitive	166,500	8.9%
Recreation	80,000	4.3%
Access	2,000	0.1%
Recreation/utilization:		
recreational reserves	70,000	3.8%
deer yards	61,500	3.3%
harvesting/recreation areas	1,395,500	74.9%
	1,862,500	100.0%

The natural environment classification and zoning system achieve the Park goal: ensuring continuing opportunities for a diversity of low intensity recreational experiences, subject to the constraint of the contribution of Algonquin to the region's economy. In addition, the basic natural, cultural and recreational resources are set apart for public use through the zoning system.

The government operated Algonquin Forestry Authority is being established to carry out all forest harvesting in the Park, recognizing the need to assure the continued existence of Algonquin's values and special qualities. Sufficient land has been allocated to sustain the average level of timber production of 15 to 17 million cubic feet each year in the Park. The canoe-camping capacity of Algonquin Park is about 360,000 user days per annum and will be reached in the next few years. The zoning system selected for Algonquin does not alter the Park's overall canoe-camping capacity. However, it provides for 100,000 user days annually in areas where forest harvesting will not be permitted. This exceeds current demand indicated by recent studies of the attitudes of canoe-campers in the interior of Algonquin Park, which show that about 17 percent are seeking an experience where harvesting is prohibited.



Overall Plan

Management Policies

From its establishment, Algonquin has been recognized for its special qualities. Succeeding plans, laws, regulations and administrative guidelines have been successful in responding to those impacts that might adversely change Algonquin's basic characteristics. The following policies are designed to continue to maintain and enhance these qualities.

Lands and Waters

Preservation of the lands and waters of the headwater highland area occupied by Algonquin has been a major consideration in the management of the Park since its establishment in 1893.

Minerals and Rock Materials

Prospecting, staking out claims and the working of mines are prohibited. Native materials including sand, gravel and rock may not be used for purposes outside the Park. All pits must be approved by the Superintendent and are located in recreation/utilization zones away from existing and potential visitor use areas. They are developed in a manner which minimizes the disturbance of the site and are restored at the termination of their use.

From surveys completed thus far, there is little evidence of commercial mineral deposits. Only one small iron deposit south of Dickson Lake and a variety of sand and gravel deposits are known to exist.

The soils are mostly derived from glacial deposits that are influenced primarily by the underlying bedrock formations of granitic-gneiss found throughout the Park. They are basically sandy, ranging from pure to silty or loamy sands, and are generally infertile, erodable and droughty. Because of the erodable nature of Algonquin soils, there is a need to prevent and correct soil deterioration from high intensity recreational use and timber harvesting activities. Preventative site protection measures are authorized; however, soil protection methods must be compatible with maintaining primitive conditions especially in primitive and natural zones. Soils information is used to locate roads and recreational developments, so their durability is increased and maintenance reduced.

Water

Because Algonquin is situated on the highest land in the region, nineteen separate watersheds drain from the Park. In the western uplands, there is an abundance of rather uniformly distributed small lakes linked by small streams. The central lakes area is a water-dominated landscape where many of the larger lakes are so broken by peninsulas and islands that each, in effect, forms a more intimate group of smaller lakes (Figure 3). As in the eastern ridge region, where the waterways are largely associated with long linear scarp patterns, the rivers and streams which form a connecting network with lakes in the central lakes area are larger on an average than those found in the western uplands.

The abundance and pattern of waters is Algonquin's most important recreational feature. Water quality is excellent, but recreational values would plummet if the water were polluted. In only one small area do waters flow into the Park. Provision of adequate sanitation facilities and programs, proper timber management practices and increased management and educational activities are the keys to maintaining the purity of Park waters as public use makes continual and greater demands upon the area. A water management plan will also prohibit any practice which might alter established water levels or reduce the supply of water in Algonquin. The tapping of Park water for external uses is controlled. Low dams may be constructed or reconstructed for recreational purposes only. Resultant water levels will not normally exceed the former high water mark.

Air

The effects of various activities on air quality in Algonquin Park have not been specifically determined. Air quality may be affected more from particulate matter blown from other areas than from activities taking place in the Park. The relative assimilation by the environment of smoke from forest fires and by-products of the internal combustion engine are unknown. Generally speaking, air quality in Algonquin appears to be excellent.

Vegetation

The vegetation of the Park today probably includes the same species that existed when the Europeans first arrived in North America, but in different proportions. The Park lies within the Algonquin section of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence forest region. To the north, stretch the great boreal coniferous forests, and to the south are the deciduous hardwoods. Early fires and continued logging have changed the forest cover in the Park. Many of the original pine stands have been replaced by tolerant hardwoods with the natural climax forest being hemlock. The land in the western two-thirds of Algonquin Park is relatively high and rugged. Today, the forests growing there are largely sugar maple, yellow birch, beech and hemlock. On the rest of the Park, which is lower and the hills more gently rolling, the forest growth is a mixture of poplars, white birch, white pine and red pine.

The coniferous stands, mostly white pine, occupy 29 percent of the forest area and are dominant in the eastern section of the Park. The deciduous stands, primarily sugar maple, occupy 71 percent and are dominant in the west. The distribution of stand ages is also uneven with less than one percent of the forest being younger than 20 years of age and nearly half being in the 40 to 60 year age range.

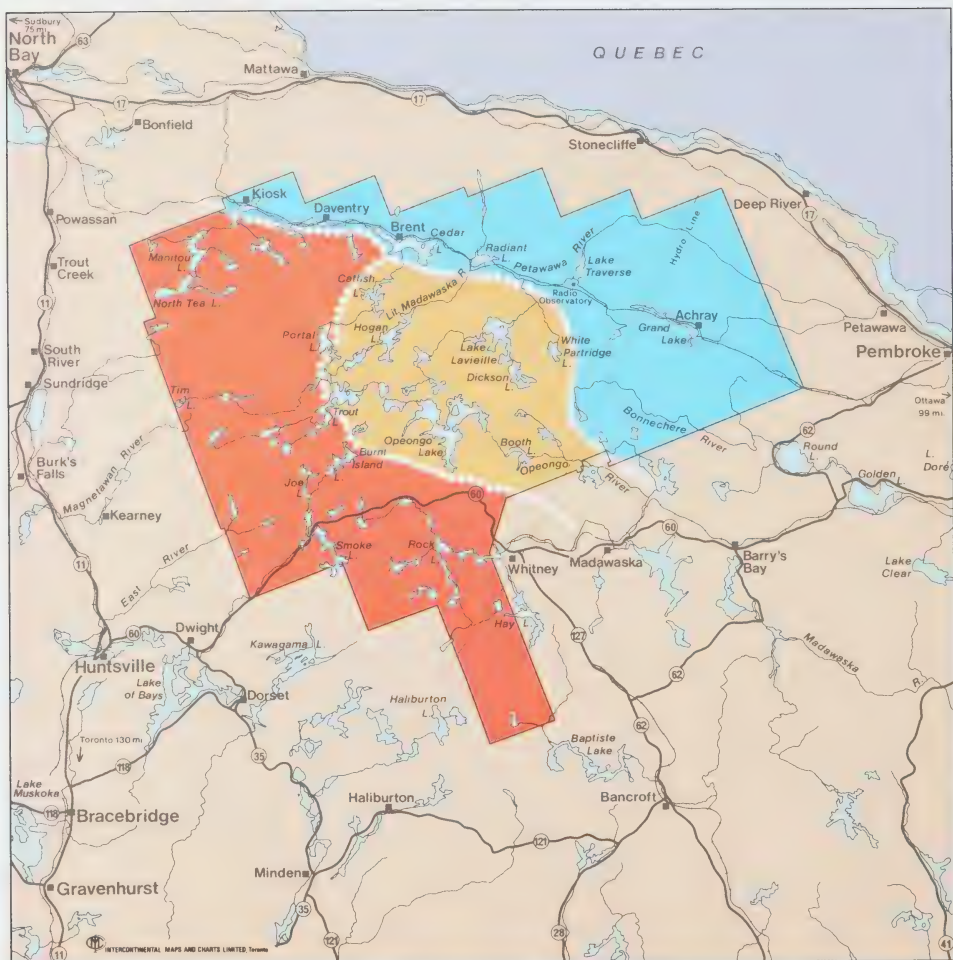
Figure 3

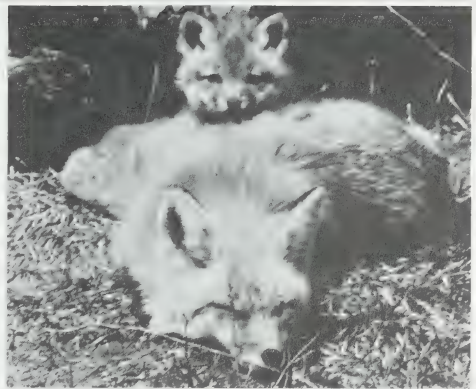
18

Major Topographic Systems in Algonquin Park

- Western Uplands System ■ Eastern Ridge System
■ Central Lakes System

Scale: One inch equals 16 miles





The quality of the forest for timber products has been lessened by the selective nature of past cutting, deer browsing, and damage by fire and logging. Stands older than 60 years are understocked, with understocking increasing with age. In the primitive zones, there are two core blocks of land where little past and no recent human disturbance of the vegetation has occurred. The area involved north of the parkway is about 35,000 acres, and to the south, 10,000 acres (Figure 4). However, these plant communities have been affected by natural factors such as wildfire, windthrow, insects, diseases and wildlife.

The Provincial Parks Act and other legislation and directives that apply to Algonquin Park, regulate the use of vegetation. Detailed policies have been designed to minimize impact and conflict with other uses, yet support the overall aim of the Park. Timber harvesting, administrative cutting¹ and burning of vegetation will most noticeably affect composition, diversity and succession. However, vegetation is one of many renewable resources in the environment and removal of mature and overmature trees makes way for the re-establishment of young vegetative communities.

The zoning of Algonquin Park in this plan divides the area into a number of zone types for the purpose of designating vegetation management methods. Administrative cutting and prescribed burning may be acceptable in all zone types. Commercial timber harvesting is only permitted in certain areas within recreation/utilization zones. Detailed policies have been designed to stipulate where cutting and burning may be used and why. Policies that permit alteration of existing plant communities are supplemented by those that provide for reforestation and protection. In short, policies are aimed at perpetuating a variety of successional stages and plant composition, a diversity of vegetation communities and the primitive character of the area to produce long term favourable effects within the constraint of the contribution of the forests of the Park to the region's economy.

Fish and Wildlife

The geographical position of the Park creates unusual variations in elevation, climate, soils, vegetation and aquatic conditions, which in turn affect the animal life. The Park lies along the southern edge of Merriam's Canadian life-zone. But since it touches the Transition life-zone to the south and is influenced to the north and east by the moderating effects of the Ottawa Valley lowlands, Algonquin presents an interesting meeting and rich diversity of northern and southern forms. Birds, because of their greater mobility, are affected more than mammals. Examples may be found as well among fish, amphibians, reptiles and other more stationary forms.

Wildlife

A unique feature in Algonquin is the presence of intact natural wildlife food chains, up to and including the largest predators such as timber wolves, which are present as an integral part of the biotic community. This is a distinction few other areas in Southern Ontario have, since wolves or other members of the food chain might be absent as a result of human influences. Wilderness species are also a feature of the wildlife community in the Park. The moose, timber wolf, marten and fisher are among the better known larger mammals. Among all species, the loon probably characterizes best the "feeling" of the Park's special qualities.

Wildlife policies are specifically designed to preserve and enhance endangered and rare species and to retain complete biotic communities in a variety of successional stages of vegetation with diverse food chains. Introductions of indigenous and exotic species are prohibited and animal control is generally limited. Provision is made to increase opportunities for observing wildlife in recreation and natural zones. Special protection from humans may be afforded species such as great blue herons or loons, vulnerable during the nesting season or at other times or places. Deer management includes protection of shelter in wintering areas. Range improvement may be carried out in areas benefitting huntable deer in recreation/utilization zones near the Park boundary. Hunting for game species is permitted in Bruton and Clyde Townships. Trapping on registered traplines is also permitted in these townships and on the eastern side of the Park.

Fish

The majority of the lakes in the Park contain cold water species. The lake trout is the most common, occurring in all the larger lakes and in some lakes as small as fifty acres. Brook trout occur in about half as many lakes and a number of streams and rivers. Warm water species such as walleye, smallmouth bass, pike and muskellunge are found in the lower portions of the Bonnechere and Petawawa watersheds, but are absent from the various headwaters in the Park. Smallmouth bass have been successfully introduced into about twenty lakes along the parkway.



The lakes of Algonquin Park are relatively infertile owing to the limited supply of nutrients in this extremely infertile portion of the Precambrian Shield. As a result, annual yields are low, about one-half pound of brook trout per acre of lake.

¹Administrative cutting involves clearing portages, campsites, zone boundary lines and other areas in the management of the Park.

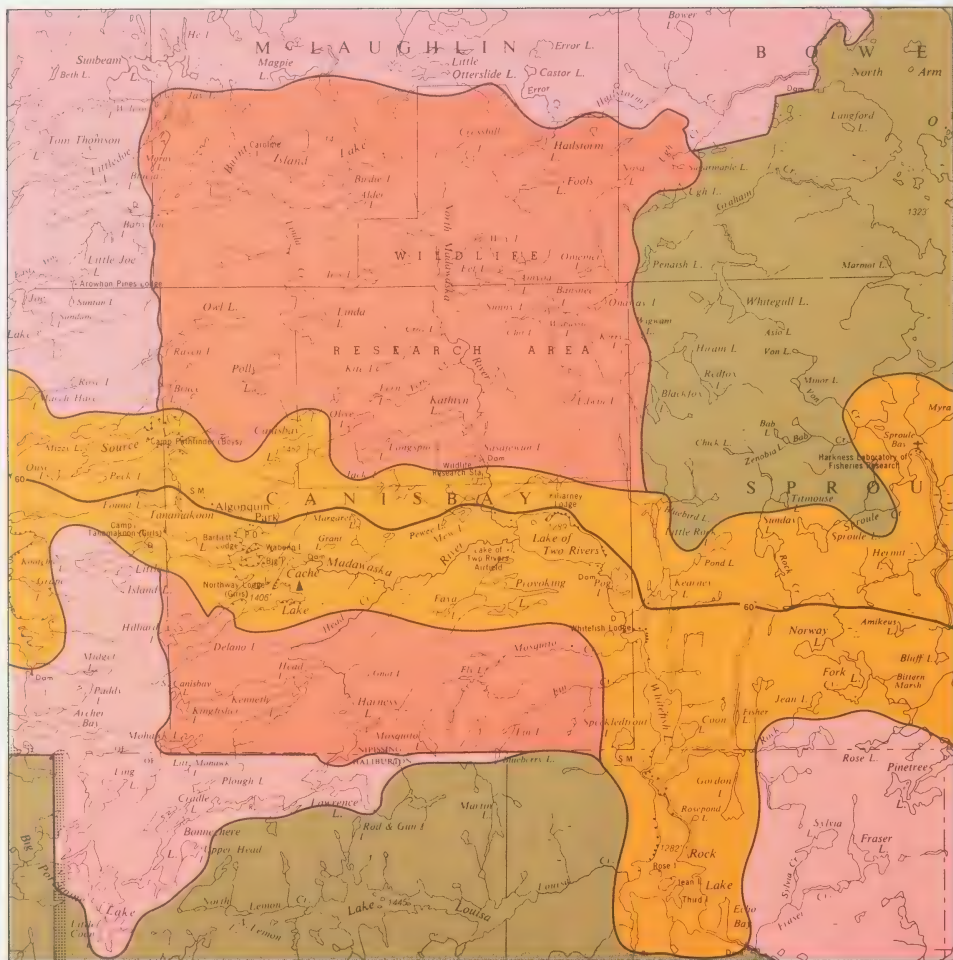
Core Primitive Zones

 Core Primitive Zone

Primitive Zone
Recreation/Utilization Zone

 Algonquin Parkway Corridor Recreation/Utilization Zone

North





The basic strategy in Algonquin fisheries policy is to manage waters in an attempt to provide opportunities for quality angling for native sports fish species, in line with the experience and expectations of the range of types of fishermen attracted to the Park. This policy recognizes that fishing is and will continue to be a major attraction and activity in Algonquin Park for the foreseeable future. Brook trout and lake trout management will be intensified through the efforts of a fisheries management unit to provide quality open water angling in line with zoning policies. Other sports fish populations will be contained within their present range by the erection of barriers, if necessary, and allowed to follow a natural course or be used in association with Ministry research programs. Access limitations and difficulties of access will continue to constitute a basic means of maintaining fishing quality.

The wilderness character of Algonquin waterways is recognized as a major part of the angler's experience — the catching of a wild fish in a wilderness environment. Of importance, too, is the role fish play as an essential part of the diet for several species of birds and mammals. In natural and primitive zones, the tradition of catching and killing fish by man is being weighed in light of the importance of sustaining the integrity of natural ecosystems. Fishing will be limited in the two natural zone watershed reserves and core primitive zones to a catch and release basis with individual possession restricted to two brook trout or one lake trout per person. Such a policy in these areas will allow population replenishment by natural reproduction, thus eliminating a need to supplement populations with planted stock, while assuring essential food for other dependent forms of life. Elsewhere, in primitive and natural zones, fisheries will be managed only by restricting harvest through enforcement of regulations.

In recreation and recreation/utilization zones fisheries management will be directed to providing maximum feasible benefits through stocking with native trout species, removal of all fish from some waters and restocking with desirable species in order to improve a fishery, and other appropriate publicly acceptable measures. The use of live bait fish has been prohibited in the Park to avoid further human influence on fish species distribution and related negative effects on sports fishing opportunities.



Fire, Insects and Disease

The plant communities in Algonquin Park were affected by natural disturbances long before Europeans arrived in North America. The nature of each of these influences in the Park has been altered significantly since pre-contact times through human activity.

Fire

Much of Algonquin Park has been burned at least once in the last century and one-half. These fires have been a principal factor in vegetation renewal and the development of the present plant mosaic.

In recent years, effective fire prevention, detection and suppression techniques have kept burned acreage low. Normal years see about 100 acres burned in 40 fires, usually less than one-quarter acre in size each. They are most often caused by travellers in the interior failing to extinguish campfires completely.

Methods and equipment are similar to those used elsewhere in the province and are detailed in regional and district fire control plans. Aircraft patrol has proven to be a more efficient and cheaper means of fire detection. Only two towers, at Trout Lake and Big Crow Lake, remain in the Park.

Basic fire policies for Algonquin Park include the prevention of man-caused fires primarily through visitor contacts and hazard reduction measures at campsites and along trails and portages. Prescribed burning may be used in natural zones to perpetuate fire-associated values and conditions, in recreation zones to perpetuate blueberry production in traditional picking areas and in recreation/utilization zones for timber production when and where soil, fuel, weather, silvical conditions and management prescriptions dictate. Maximum provision is made for the protection of primitive recreational values through all fire suppression and prevention activities.

All fires will be suppressed with the exception that, in primitive zones and watershed natural zones, fires of natural origin may be permitted to burn to achieve a natural succession, provided they do not damage or threaten to spread and damage recreational or timber values. Hand tools, chain saws, portable pumps and water dropping from aircraft may be used to suppress fire. Only retardants which have minimal detrimental environmental effects are used. Crews and equipment may be delivered and retrieved by aircraft or motorized vehicle. Scars and disturbances associated with fires and fire suppression activities in recreational use areas and sites will be rehabilitated.



Insect and Disease

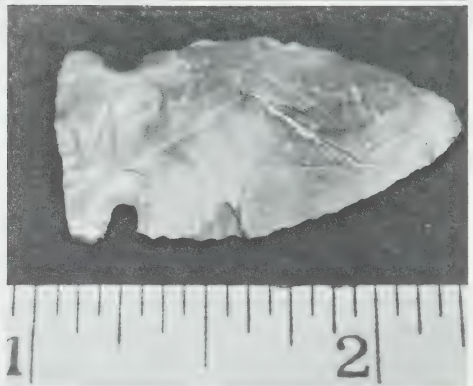
While insects are an integral part of ecosystems, some species are regarded as destructive agents affecting forest trees. For example, spruce budworm, larch sawfly, jack pine budworm, forest tent caterpillar, birch skeletonizer, white pine weevil, saddled prominent and large aspen tortrix are some of the insect species which have caused losses of timber in Algonquin Park in recent times.

In general, the control of insects and diseases of plants and animals is permitted in the Park only where there is evidence that lack of control will result in unacceptable losses of recreational or timber resources, or cause unacceptable damage to resources on adjacent land or in adjacent zones. The use of a biocide—a chemical or biotic means of control—will be considered only when other means of control are not feasible. Resource management aims at preventing conditions which result in a need for biocidal control. Only biocides and methods approved by the Forest Management Branch, Ministry of Natural Resources, which are not unduly harmful to other forms of life, are used. Spraying is prohibited over all waters in the Park.

The use of biocides to kill flesh-biting insects is not permitted, except when used by individuals for their personal protection. Biocides to control other insects are employed only when the infestation appears likely to result in unacceptable damage to recreational values in high intensity use areas in recreation zones and to timber values in recreation/utilization zones.

The use of biocides to control animal life in water may be permitted in recreation/utilization and recreation zones only.

The use of the class of biocides employed in vegetation control and commonly called herbicides is not permitted in recreation, access, natural, historic and primitive zones in the Park. In recreation/utilization zones they may be used to control vegetation in association with a disease like white pine blister rust. They may also be used in recreation/utilization zones to control vegetation along all types of roads or transmission lines and to manage commercial timber. The priority in method of application is as follows: (i) on individual plants; (ii) spraying from the ground; and (iii) spraying from aircraft.



History and Archaeology

Algonquin has a rich and varied history. Extensive field research during the past few years has identified an impressive array and number of historic and archaeological sites. Many artifacts and period pieces have been recovered, studied and placed in the Park Museum collections; many more remain to be discovered. In other cases, valuable artifacts and period pieces have been removed illegally from the Park by the public. This is strictly prohibited by Park and provincial regulations.

Basic management direction is to preserve sites of historic or archaeological significance. Any site discovered dating prior to 1940 is given interim protection pending study. Important sites covering the scope of the Algonquin historic zone system will be preserved and protected, and in some cases restored. Field study, assessment and reconstruction will be carried out under the direction of recognized authorities in the field of study concerned. Locations of sites need not be revealed until the examination and evaluation of the site is completed. In special cases, the locations of fragile sites may be withheld. All information, artifacts and other materials related to historic and archaeological resources are stored in the Park Museum, allowing only appropriate periods for study in locations approved by the Superintendent.



Wilderness

The wilderness resource means different things to different people, not only in terms of definition, but also in perceived site quality depending upon the expectations and previous knowledge of the individual. Wilderness consists of a multitude of individual characteristics—rock-rimmed lakes, evergreen shores, morning mist and the howl of the timber wolf. Although many qualities of wilderness cannot be quantified, a lack of evidence or knowledge of human activity and a maximum degree of naturalness of appearance are readily identifiable. If Algonquin is measured against this standard, it was not “pure” at the time of its establishment in 1893. At that time, the Park had been intimately involved in the Ottawa Valley timber trade for nearly sixty years. Most of Algonquin Park, however, does possess a natural looking appearance today—the scars of early human activities are largely healed.

A visitor's view of the natural setting is limited to the distance he can see. Recent preliminary studies of the reactions and perceptions of interior travellers suggest that conflicts between recreation users may be more important than those between recreation and other uses. For example, the maintenance of vegetation along shorelines and other controls largely prevent people from noticing logging activities, but they do notice each other.

Overall management direction is aimed at preserving and perpetuating the land characteristics that make up the wilderness resource. In recreation/utilization zones, activities are prohibited or modified to minimize effects on the natural appearance of the landscape in the vicinity of lakes, streams, portages and trails. Policies in other zone types are designed to maintain the integrity of the ecosystem to the maximum degree possible within the constraint of the need to provide for appropriate visitor uses and needs. Certain policies, such as trail and portage construction, vegetation management in natural zones and timber harvesting in recreation/utilization zones, cause adverse effects of short duration on individual characteristics of the wilderness resource, primarily vegetation. These, in turn, can result in long term favourable effects of perpetuating a variety and diversity of plant and animal communities as well as scenery. Policies are also directed toward developing and implementing a program to regulate and distribute all types of visitors, to guard against future overuse and to minimize conflicts between users. In cases where auditory or visual impact is unavoidable, such as a timber harvesting road crossing a portage, provisions are made to minimize impact.



Research

Algonquin provides the best and most extensive outdoor laboratory in Southern Ontario. Many types of research are possible here that could not be undertaken elsewhere and more than 30 research programs are conducted annually on a wide range of study subjects.

Research activities in Algonquin Park can only be carried out upon receipt of the Superintendent's written permission. Judgements are based on the following criteria:

1. There will be no unacceptable impact on either the environment or the use of an area. The collection or destruction of any material will be strictly controlled.
2. The study should relate directly to the Park goal and objectives.
3. There must be strong advantages for doing the research in the Park as compared to doing it elsewhere.
4. The study should be of high scientific interest, and must be conducted or directed by responsible investigators of proven ability.
5. Ministry programs have priority with regard to the use of facilities.

There are five research facilities in Algonquin Park. Four are operated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the fifth, the Algonquin Radio Observatory operated by the Federal Government, is one of two major radio astronomy installations in Canada. The Harkness Laboratory of Fisheries Research was established on Opeongo Lake in 1936. While early emphasis was placed upon lake trout studies, recent efforts have been concentrated on brook trout. Since 1944, considerable basic work has been done on furbearers, predators, big game, birds, small mammals and black flies at the Wildlife Research Station on Sasajewan Lake. The Forest Research Station at Swan Lake was established in 1950. Work here has concentrated upon regeneration studies of yellow birch, quality improvement of sugar maple, red spruce provenance tests and prescribed burning in tolerant hardwoods. Since the late 1940's, studies of the natural and cultural resources of Algonquin have been centred at the Park Museum at Found Lake. More recently, recreation research studies have also been carried out here to provide a better understanding of the needs, attitudes and perceptions of the major visitor groups to the Park.



Information, Interpretation and Education

Visitor use has and will continue to increase until the carrying capacity of the Park for various user groups is reached. Therefore more intensive management is required, with greater efforts to promote user understanding through effective information, interpretation and education programs. These functions are given priority relative to all functions described in this plan.

Information systems are of critical importance to visitors. If they are ineffective, visitors may not relate to Algonquin's special values or they may select to use facilities and services which are not of optimum value in terms of their interests and the time they have available to spend in the Park. The system to be developed places heavy dependence upon the information program delivering visitors to individual activity opportunity locations or routes which correspond with visitor capacity and as parts of specifically designed experiences. It is structured around the varying needs of the major user groups. Since many people experience considerable difficulty relating to Algonquin resources, the information program can exert a major influence on visitor activity patterns.

The interpretation and education program attempts to increase visitors' understanding, appreciation and enjoyment. The program centres around Park themes which are the main subject areas about which some form of public communication is required. Some are major themes upon which major emphasis is placed, while others may only be of deep interest to a specialized interest group. A range of means and media may be employed to present the same theme, or different examples of situations in the Park may be used to develop a theme. Thematic presentations are designed, not to convey facts, but rather to instill an attitude toward the subject being communicated. Major Algonquin themes centre on geologic processes, native animals and floral cover, man in the Algonquin environment, and the Algonquin wilderness.

Recreation

The Ontario Provincial Parks System is required to provide opportunities for low intensity recreational experiences in a wilderness environment. Algonquin provides this—a fact attested to by longstanding, widespread and growing public use and interest.

Like other provincial parks, Algonquin offers different recreational opportunities during the various seasons. In every season, there is a strong natural orientation in activity preference and selection. This is evidenced by the fact that Algonquin is the only provincial park in Ontario where interpretive trails are known to rank ahead of bathing in order of visitor activity selection.

On the surface, recreation management of the Park may seem deceptively simple: provide low intensity recreational opportunities. There are, however, many uses and situations in the Park that require special regulations or extremely detailed policies. These have complicated recreation resource management.

Traditional uses such as canoeing have increased and new uses are beginning to develop. To prevent environmental and experience deterioration, a significant number of actions have been taken by the Ministry that relate to littering, crowding, trampling, pollution, resource depletion and incompatible activities. Despite more stringent regulations, conflict and damage continue, even increase, because of either high levels or rapidly increasing use. This is most critical in the interior where use has doubled in the past four years.

Basic recreation management is aimed at providing, to the extent consistent with wilderness values, low intensity land- and water-oriented recreation opportunities that feature a variety of wilderness recreation experiences.

Visitor experience design, which depends largely upon the information system program for delivery, involves first of all the identification and documentation of all known resources which have visitor experience value. These data are analyzed and placed into activity packages intended to provide a particular type of experience and associated level of satisfaction: that is, the potential of the resource is described relative to the user groups, activity and resource grouping in the area in question. The final stage involves the actual design of visitor experiences. This requires imagination in both the provision of new and alternative ways in which existing facilities, services, natural and cultural values can be used.

A number of new policies are described in the plan. Their basic intent is to protect the quality of the experience and the resource and to equalize opportunities for individuals of differing or similar activity interests and experience.



Access and Travel

Within Algonquin there are nearly 100 miles of foot trails. Portages interconnect approximately 1,500 miles of waterways having 1,200 individual, developed interior campsites along them. Beginning in 1975, motor boats will only be permitted on Opeongo Lake and on most lakes having private recreational leases on them. Public roads will continue to be limited to the few which provide access to waterways near the boundary and to several major lakes in the parkway corridor. Additional highways will not be routed through the Park. Recreational snowmobiling is prohibited, except along the hydro right-of-way service road in Clyde Township. The policy of allowing snowmobiling on this road will be subject to further review. Public aircraft landings in the Park are limited to float landings at Ministry airbases located at Smoke Lake and Kioshkowi Lake. Negotiations between the Canadian National Railway and the Ministry are planned to discuss the future of the railway and associated facilities. This main line follows a number of major waterways for a distance of 76.5 miles through the northern and eastern sections of the Park.

The basic philosophy in dealing with motorized and mechanical transport in areas away from public roads is to require visitors to rely solely on muscle power as a means of transportation. In doing this, the carrying capacity of the Park will be increased and there will be a better chance of relating visitors to Algonquin's environment and values. In addition, certain protection is afforded biotic and physical resources.

Regulatory policies to date have been aimed at specific means of locomotion rather than at the basic philosophy itself. Each time a new transportation device comes upon the market a new regulation is required. While this is necessary, each should be considered within the broader context of the basic policy on motorized and mechanical transport in the Park. This states that except on designated roads, water and air routes, motorized and mechanical transport is prohibited. This prohibition does not apply in the case of emergency or in the control and management of the Park. Permission to travel on other than designated roads, water and air routes by motorized or mechanical transport is by permit only, issued by the Superintendent.



Facilities and Services

A wide variety and large number of structures and improvements have been developed to provide recreational facilities and services in Algonquin Park. A similar situation exists with structures and improvements needed in other resource management programs.

Structures and improvements are incompatible with a wilderness environment. In view of this, the basic policy is to limit structures and improvements to those essential to recreational and resource management and proper use of the area. In many cases, such as with highways, transmission lines, communication towers and sawmills, additional development is prohibited. In other cases, including lumber camps and logging roads, development is located in a manner which does not conflict, or minimizes conflict, with recreational use of the Park. In still other cases, the degree of development or nature of development is adjusted. For example, additional organized campground development in the Park will be limited and future development will be restricted to smaller, more intimate units. A deliberate attempt is also being made to rectify all existing situations where structures and improvements are incompatible with the provision of a wilderness environment.

Land Occupancy and Tenure Adjustment

In Algonquin Park there are approximately 360 leases for private cottages and 12 for commercial purposes. In addition to the leases, there are 18 licences of occupation and land use permits covering cottages. Privately owned properties include 24 cottage lots, the Kiosk townsite and the Canadian National Railway right-of-way and station grounds (Figure 5).

The above totals do not include land authorities for such things as Ontario Hydro transmission and distribution lines, facilities for the Algonquin Forestry Authority, Bell Telephone installations, the radio observatory, and Canadian National Railway leases. Present policy respecting land occupation in Algonquin Park dates back to 1954. During the course of preparing the master plan, this policy was thoroughly reviewed by both the government and the Algonquin Park Advisory Committee and has not been altered as it provides essential support to the basic purpose of the Park. The major points in the land occupation policy are:

(1) *New Leases*

No new leases, licences of occupation or permits will be granted for private, public or commercial purposes.

(2) *Subsisting Leases*

Any subsisting lease for land on which improvements have been erected will be permitted to continue unless the lessee desires to relinquish his lease to the Crown either by sale or by gift, or such land is required for the purposes of the Ministry. Upon the expiry of any lease, the lessee relinquishes all rights to the improvements thereon.

(3) *Lease Renewals*

Any lease containing a provision for renewal may be renewed at the option of the lessee, but the renewed lease will not contain any provision for further renewal.

(4) *Assignment of Leases*

Where application is made to approve the assignment of a lease, the Crown reserves the option to acquire the lease. This does not apply to any assignment between husband and wife and any child of either of them, or to any assignment required to give effect to a devise under a will.

(5) The Superintendent is required to ensure that all lessees comply with the terms of their leases, particularly in obtaining the approval of the Superintendent before any building or clearing is done. Such improvements are considered to be fully depreciated by the expiry of the lease or the renewal period, if any.

In 1954, leaseholders were advised of this policy which meant that they could remain for the term of their lease and for any further term of any renewal provided for in the lease if they so desired. The renewal period was normally for twenty-one years and most of the leases are now in their final twenty-one year term. This policy is authorized by Regulation under the Provincial Parks Act.

At the present time, the policy is to purchase the improvements when an unexpired lease is offered to the Crown. In cases where an agreeable price cannot be negotiated, the leaseholder is authorized to dispose of his interests privately. This policy of authorizing disposition privately, where a mutually satisfactory value cannot be negotiated, will continue.

Cottages maintained under the authority of a license of occupation or a land use permit issued prior to 1954 will be permitted to remain until the expiry date of an associated lease. In cases where they are not associated with a lease, they will remain until the mean lease expiry date on the nearest lake having cottage leases.

All privately owned properties in the Park, with the exception of the Canadian National Railway and the Algonquin Radio Observatory lands, will be acquired whenever possible. Any properties remaining at the time of expiry of the last cottage lease in 1996 will be expropriated.

The lands leased from the Canadian National Railway by private individuals and companies will be acquired by the province as soon as possible. Permanent residents will then be allowed to remain under the authority of an agreement with the Minister until their demise or until they wish to leave the lands in question. Similar agreements will be entered into with seasonal residents for a period corresponding with the unexpired term of their existing lease with the Canadian National Railway. Under these agreements, ownership transfers will not be permitted. Existing land use authorizations for Ontario Hydro transmission and distribution lines, facilities for the Algonquin Forestry Authority and Bell Telephone installations will be maintained. The Park Superintendent will approve the location and development of all new structures associated with these land authorizations and of all new telephone and hydro distribution lines. These will be underground whenever possible and no new hydro transmission lines, in addition to the Minden-DesJoachims and the Algonquin Radio Observatory transmission lines, will be built in or through the Park. Existing transmission lines will not be widened. No new permanent establishments will be permitted except those required by the Ministry for Park operations and research and for the operation of the Algonquin Forestry Authority.

evidence of structures is removed from the site. The Ministry, in turn, is responsible for restoring the vegetation. This policy of removal does not apply to buildings which should be retained for use because of their historic significance.

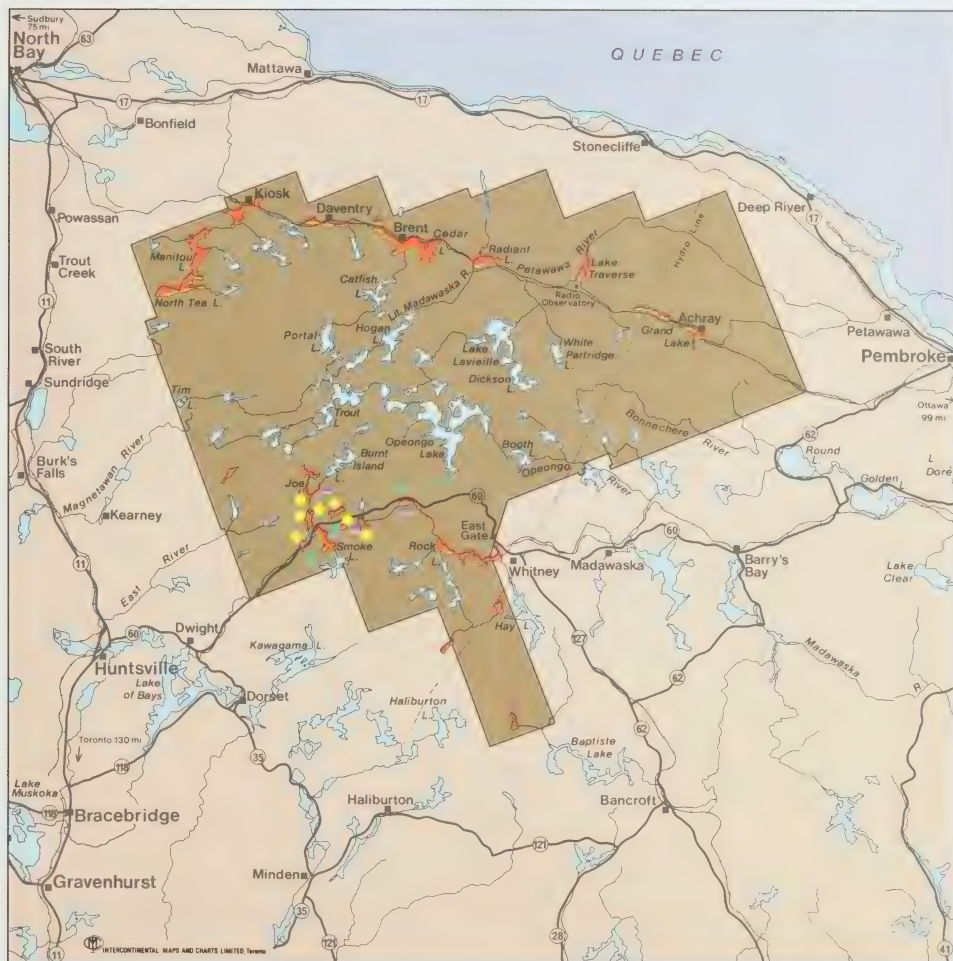
 Lodge

 Research Station

☐ Youth Camp:

 Cottage Lake

Scale: One inch equals 16 miles







Four existing lodges operated by the private sector under commercial lease are being permitted to remain in the Park through the 1995 operating season in order to provide accommodation and services to a segment of society that does not choose to, or is not able to camp. The capacity and number of lodges will not be increased, and additional lodging capacity will be located outside the Park. The provision of lodge services in the Park will be the subject of study during the period of master plan review between 1975 and 1979.

Seven youth camps, operated by the private sector under commercial lease, will remain in the Park as they make a substantial contribution by increasing an awareness of special places like Algonquin in many young people. Additional youth camp capacity in the Park will be developed by the Ministry to accommodate young people from the less affluent segment of the population of Ontario. The last private youth camp lease expires at the end of the 1996 operating season. The scale of program and nature of private sector services will be studied within the period of master plan review between 1975 and 1979 in line with the developing Ministry youth camp program.

A buffer zone one mile in perpendicular width from the boundary surrounds Algonquin Park. The Crown lands within this area are withdrawn from disposition for all purposes except by land use permits for roads, sawmills or other requirements of timber licences in connection with their operations. Certain key private properties will be acquired within the buffer zone, giving highest priority to those which have the greatest impact on existing or planned public recreational use.

Administration

The major challenge facing Park administrators is to preserve the resource in the face of steadily increasing recreational use. Critical administration problems include effective visitor experience design, user surveillance, control and dispersion, the determination of proper carrying capacities, the administration of other resource programs and their integration with recreational use of the Park.

Effective management of the Park with maximum service to the public requires the use of certain tools to aid different administrative groups in carrying out their duties. The Provincial Parks Act and Regulation, and the provisions of this plan permit the use of structures, installations, improvements, aircraft, motor boats, logging and road building equipment, and other motorized and mechanical equipment under defined controls when such uses are necessary to administer the area. The Algonquin Forestry Authority, Ontario Hydro, the Canadian National Railway and certain other agencies have legitimate reasons for working inside the Park and their work may require the use of motorized equipment, structures and other improvements.

Basic management direction in Algonquin takes the form of active and positive measures essential for directing use, protection and administration of the area. An understanding is communicated to other agencies working in the Park on what individual administrative responsibilities are and how they are to be carried out, especially where there may be interaction between agency activities and Park programs. Management activities are scheduled and conducted in a manner which least conflicts with recreational use. Such activities conform as nearly as possible to restrictions placed on the public.

The entire Park has been placed in one, rather than several, administrative districts. The establishment of a district office at the East Gate servicing the Park has placed a higher level of organization in direct contact with operating problems. Decentralization of the planning function to the regional office in Huntsville has allowed greater efforts to be directed toward the Algonquin planning program.

The Park Superintendent, who is also District Manager, exercises line authority over the supervisors of the various district programs: timber, parks, fish and wildlife, lands, field services, and finance and administration. District Supervisors, in turn, have line authority over all administrative and management functions pertaining to Algonquin.



Area Plans

Algonquin Parkway Corridor (Highway 60)

Public input in the form of briefs submitted in 1968 at hearings of the Provisional Master Plan and more recent recommendations from the Algonquin Park Advisory Committee have directed government policy and development planning. Basically, this involves holding the Algonquin parkway corridor area of influence to its present limits, and redirecting additional intensive recreational developments to areas outside of, but adjacent to, the Park. Consequently, most of the Park's recreational potential is available to provide a variety of low intensity opportunities in the interior canoe-camping area.

Public use and administration of Algonquin also falls into these three principal sections: the Algonquin parkway corridor, the interior canoe-camping area and the external perimeter recreation system. A plan for each of these areas follows. These plans are very different and reflect the total combination of existing conditions and demands placed upon each area. The parkway corridor plan is an extremely detailed development and redevelopment proposal aimed at optimizing visitor experiences. By comparison, the concept for the interior canoe-camping area is a management policy proposal which, with the size of the area, is not closely tied to specific locations on the ground as is the case in the corridor. There is a certain degree of overlap between these two plans as some use patterns unite the areas and certain policies have Park-wide application. The external perimeter recreation system plan represents a very broad development proposal requiring refinement through detailed master planning programs for the various areas involved. Again, use patterns unite and create a degree of overlap with proposals for areas within the Park itself.

This plan attempts to identify the impact of varying management proposals on the environment and the quality of experience provided various types of users of the parkway (Highway 60) corridor. The need for this results from conflicts in recreational use patterns, imbalances in allocation of recreational resources among user groups and in deficiencies in services and facilities for certain types of visitors. The plan aims to provide:

- (1) an improvement in the quality of experience and related increase in types of activities provided for day visitors;
- (2) an increase in camping opportunities and more types of organized camping experiences;
- (3) an improvement in the information, orientation and educational training services for trippers gaining access to the interior via the parkway corridor;
- (4) a realignment of visitor services and facilities, particularly those associated with concessions, to ensure their support of the basic purpose of Algonquin Park;
- (5) additional space for recreational programs through the elimination of private cottages and forest products harvesting in the parkway corridor;
- (6) an overall increase in recreation and tourism opportunities and a net increase in the corridor's contribution to the regional and provincial economy.

Dimensions

The parkway corridor boundary follows a rather irregular course relating to the complex topography of the area and the natural distribution of significant recreational values (Figure 6). It basically parallels the path of Highway 60 for 40 miles through the southwest corner of the Park and ranges from 3 to 4 miles in width. The total area of the parkway corridor is 73,500 acres or 3.9 percent of the Park area.

Most areas included within the corridor are currently being utilized in existing recreation programs. A significant expansion is not being proposed, but rather a reallocation of resources to various existing and potential user groups. The approach recognizes the need to provide visitors to the parkway area with at least a "threshold" Algonquin experience. This, however, must be accomplished without erosion of the wilderness character or capacity of the interior.

User Analysis

There are three broad categories of corridor users: day users, campers and interior users.

Algonquin Parkway Corridor Boundary

Scale: One inch equals 5 miles



Day Users

About 380,000 visitors used Algonquin on a day basis in 1973. The majority of these people visited the parkway corridor, while a smaller number entered at various access points around the periphery of the Park.

Most day users of the corridor come from the immediate vicinity of the Park or from the metro Toronto area. Two-thirds of the groups are small parties of 2 to 4 people, with couples and small families predominating.

Day use in the Park has been increasing by approximately 70,000 user days every five years. Projecting this trend, 410,000 day users are expected to visit the Park by 1975 and 520,000 by 1990. These levels of anticipated day use can be met for the next 20-year period.

The qualitative measure for day use in the parkway corridor is the variety and adequacy of activities available. Activities include swimming, fishing, canoeing, picnicking, hiking, viewing, nature walks, visiting historical and natural features, educational programs and perception of the natural environment. To the extent that one or more of these aspects is important to the user and is lacking or inadequate, the quality of the user day is depreciated.

Recent studies of day visitors in the parkway corridor indicate that level of satisfaction is directly related to the degree of previous park experience. In general, first time visitors are less satisfied with their Algonquin experience than repeat visitors. Algonquin, unlike most parks of its size and reputation, lacks specific attractions. The large masses of visitors who are attracted to the Park by its name would relate readily to geysers or tame deer. To have them relate to Algonquin's rock-rimmed lakes, evergreen shores and maple hills with this initial "sightseer" attitude requires special emphasis and design in all aspects of the corridor planning program.

Day visitor opportunities, at the present time and even at the expected 1990 level, are limited by the cottage development on lakes in the corridor. Day use activity demand is largely water or shoreline oriented. The capability to meet this demand in the parkway corridor is primarily concentrated on nine large lakes. On only two of these lakes are prime developable lands free of leasehold improvements. Cottages also impose limitations on campers and interior users in the parkway corridor.

Campers

Development in the parkway corridor is currently restricted to about 1,325 campsites in 8 campgrounds. At the moment, these sites generate about 300,000 camper days of recreation per annum and the July-August occupancy rate is over 80 percent. Three-quarters of Algonquin campers make direct return trips from their homes to the Park, indicating that most campers go to Algonquin to stay for the duration of their available time. The most common camping groups are couples and families with children. Almost 90 percent of camper use occurs during July and August.

Algonquin campers are less experienced than other Ontario campers because the Park is well known and, therefore, a logical choice for first time campers.

The growth of camping within Algonquin Park has been limited because the number of sites in organized campgrounds has not been increased since 1958. Careful study of the lands in the corridor indicates that the upper limit of camping can be increased from the current 1,325 sites to nearly 2,000. When these additional facilities are developed, it is estimated that they will be utilized to capacity as quickly as they can be developed and will finally generate 500,000 camper days of use annually. The qualitative measurement for camping has two aspects: space and capacity. The spatial standard to be used is a maximum of three sites per acre and an upper limit of 2,000 sites has been established. This limit reflects land capability, quality of visitor experience and public recommendations that further intensive development within the Park be limited and that additional demand be focused on external perimeter areas. The expanded camping program in the corridor will involve redesign of all existing campgrounds. In addition, other small organized camping units will be developed on a hike-in, paddle-in or drive-to basis. In total, twenty or more smaller camping areas are envisioned; each will be designed to provide an experience more intimately associated with the Park environment.

Interior Users

The interior of the Park currently generates about 225,000 interior camper days per annum. This involves about 1,200 interior campsites.

Interior trippers are significantly more experienced than the average Ontario camper, as one would expect considering the greater complexity of back-country travel. They may be classified according to their primary activity as canoeists, boat campers, fishermen and hikers.

It is anticipated that the number of interior campsites can be increased to 1,500 without deterioration of canoe-camping or environmental quality. If the current rapid rise in use continues, the interior of the Park will be used to capacity as quickly as sites and new routes can be developed. Redistribution of use from areas which are currently over-utilized will be required. In total, Algonquin is capable of generating 360,000 interior camper days per annum before 1980.

The qualitative measurement of interior use has a number of dimensions including solitude, natural qualities and a minimum of human, technological or industrial impact.



Access to the Algonquin interior is gained through points scattered around the perimeter of the Park and along the parkway corridor. At least two-thirds of the access to the interior is from the parkway. This includes almost all novice use which focuses upon Canoe Lake and Opeongo Lake to a lesser degree.

Interior users are dependent upon information, orientation, parking and outfitting services in the corridor. Expansion of the novice canoe-camping education program is planned.

Resource Description

The parkway corridor contains an excellent cross-section of cultural, physiographic and biotic resources found in Algonquin Park.

Physiography

A good sample of Algonquin bedrock and Pleistocene features is present in the corridor. The construction of the parkway exposed a number of interesting examples of rock formations and mineral types. These features have been studied and documented in a guide to the geology of the corridor. The Blubird Lake esker, the Lake of Two Rivers outwash plain and other good examples of glacial feature types are found near the parkway.

The parkway intersects two of Algonquin's three major topographical systems: the western uplands and the central lakes region. The land pattern between Smith Lake and the East Gate is similar in places to the east side of the Park. Good examples of Algonquin's major soil types are found within the corridor.

Cool evenings and warm days characterize the climate in summer. Lakes warm sufficiently to allow swimming during July and August. Even though monthly precipitation peaks during the fall, there are periods of warm clear weather that allow enjoyment of the colours. Winter is judged to be cold by most visitors who live in areas further to the south. Snow accumulation in the corridor effectively demonstrates the west-east precipitation effect existent on the Algonquin dome. Spring comes later to the elevated region of Algonquin Park than it does to surrounding areas at similar latitudes. In all, seasonal variations in climate provide an opportunity for a rich variety of recreational activities.

Water

The quality of water in lakes, rivers and streams in the corridor compares favourably with that found in interior lakes, which are as pure as any in Southern Ontario. Waters vary from crystal clear to dark or brown. Darker waters are normally present in larger lakes such as Source and Opeongo. Found, Westward and several other small lakes have very appealing clear waters, while shallow and boggy waters tend to be brown in colour. Beaches are not common in the corridor or elsewhere in Algonquin. There are, however, near the parkway a dozen or more small beaches with suitable backshores for development. These units provide an opportunity to develop small campgrounds and day use areas in portions of the corridor which currently receive limited amounts of use.

Use of corridor lakes and rivers by watercraft can be expanded by extending use to bodies of water which currently receive little or no pressure. There is excellent potential to expand opportunities for day canoeing both on an activity preference and physical route selection basis.

Lands in the parkway region are almost completely forested, resulting in good watershed protection.

Vegetation

The flora of the corridor are basically representative of Algonquin and more than 600 species of clubmosses, ferns and flowering plants have been discovered.

The roadside flowers which dominate the parkway verge are primarily introduced European species. Colourful blooms such as viper's bugloss and the hawkweeds add an attractive, yet unnatural, dimension for roadside viewers. Consideration will be given during the period of master plan review between 1975 and 1979 to long term programs aimed at eliminating introduced species of plants, including trees, and to adjustments in range alterations of indigenous species.

Apart from such introductions, the flora contain a blend of boreal and more southern species. These may be grouped into several broad types of vegetation, distributed according to underlying physical features and locally modified by climate and disturbance history.

Interpretive programs relate to corridor flora via a number of means and media. This is normally accomplished utilizing an ecosystem approach, although opportunities exist to relate to special floral situations.

Natural zones have been established in the corridor. In one instance, a natural zone exists to preserve a rare fern stand. In another case, a bog has been set aside for public education and interpretation.



Fish and Wildlife

White-tailed deer have done more to focus visitor interest upon Algonquin Park than any other single force. Some visitors still come to Algonquin primarily to see deer, although their numbers are dwindling.

Deer extended their range into Algonquin as man's early activities altered the landscape. As evidence of early fire and other disturbances disappear, so too do deer appear to be retreating to their natural range. Accompanying this are increases in moose populations and a related increase in high quality viewing opportunities.

Black bear numbers have also increased somewhat in the last few years, creating both viewing opportunities and problems associated with garbage. Management effort is directed to protecting the bear's priority right of occupancy, while permitting the viewing of this normally shy creature in his natural pattern of activity.

Furbearers provide some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities. A dozen active beaver colonies exist within viewing distance from the parkway. While beaver and beaver activity can be observed at any season of the year, freeze-up and break-up provide special opportunities for viewing other furbearers, notably otter.

Special wildlife programs can be developed on a significant scale. Wolf howls now attract over 1,000 visitors per evening outing in August. This activity can be pursued during the fall and even during the winter when the tracking of wolves, fisher and marten can be developed into a high quality experience. This opportunity is enhanced by the wilderness character of the corridor in winter.

Smaller mammals are seen incidentally and are normally of lesser viewing significance.

Birds do not present outstanding viewing opportunities. This is related to the absence of major habitat variations in this forested landscape. Colourful wood warblers are perhaps the most important viewing group. Recordings of these songsters are used to attract individual male birds within viewing distance of groups on conducted hikes and to illustrate the habitat relationships of individual species.

Invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians, like small mammals, are of incidental viewing value. Their presence is best capitalized upon in personal service programs such as conducted hikes.

Fishing is more important than wildlife viewing as a primary force in attracting visitors. The best trout fishery in Southern Ontario is located in Algonquin Park. The corridor provides good fishing opportunities for native lake trout and good angling for planted yearling or two-year-old brook trout. Significant smallmouth bass fisheries exist in several corridor lakes.

Research

There are four Ministry research centres in the corridor. To date, extensive use has been made of these facilities by both the province and universities. Programs in the past have been generally focused upon species or problems in other than a direct Park context. While these studies have provided valuable information on Algonquin's flora and fauna, greater priority will be given in future programs to research relevant to Park problems.

History and Archaeology

During the master planning program, considerable research effort and documentation has been associated with gaining an understanding of man and the Algonquin environment. The pre-contact history of Algonquin is now as well known as that of any comparable sized region in Canada. Post-contact use patterns are well understood and many individual sites have been located and investigated on the ground.

The parkway region contains a very rich cross-section of both archaeological and historic sites around which the theme of "man and Algonquin" can be effectively interpreted. Some of the more significant archaeological and historic features present in the corridor include:

- archaeological sites representing habitation or use from almost all identified pre-contact periods;
 - one of the two known pictograph sites in the Park;
 - segments of initial explorer routes;
 - sites associated with the square timber trade;
 - more recent relics of the timber trade;
 - the Ottawa-Annprior and Parry Sound Railway line;
 - examples associated with the early administration of the Park;
 - examples of current utilization of Park resources.
- Management prescriptions for the corridor involve the establishment of historic zones where need dictates. In other cases, certain sites possess excellent interpretive potential.

Summary

The substantial recreational resources of the corridor are only being partially used. Space and opportunities can be made available to significantly increase the activities available to day visitors. Similarly, variety, quality and campground capacity can be increased. Better information, orientation and educational opportunities can be provided for interior travellers.

The basic system selected in providing for the information, orientation, interpretation and educational needs of all corridor user groups, is one which first relates to individual priorities of activity preference and secondly to the broad themes associated with Algonquin Park's character, natural qualities, and the relationship of man with the Park environment.



Land Use Analysis

The corridor provides primarily for activities which are common to a number of Ontario provincial parks. Facilities and services are largely parkway-oriented and cater more to campers than attempting to encourage visitors to experience Algonquin's special qualities.

Current Level of Use

Day User Days:	380,000
Camper Days:	300,000
Interior Camper Days:	175,000 ¹

Total User Days: 855,000

Access

Access to the corridor is primarily via the East and West Gates. During the summer, external and internal waterway linkages provide an extremely small proportion of the access.

Day Use

Day use is concentrated in the central to west central portions of the corridor, with Canoe Lake and Lake of Two Rivers being the major focal points. Picnic areas are the principal type of facility designed specifically for use by day visitors. Of the eight picnic areas in the corridor, only two provide bathing opportunities and, as a result, demand presently exceeds supply. Since most day users stay in the Park for a meal, picnic areas are a normal part of the activity pattern for the majority of this group and even many of those who purchase food and beverages at snack bars. One limitation of current picnic area development is the general proximity to the parkway and lack of an experience and setting typical of the Algonquin scene.

While day visitors share with other user groups the use of facilities such as walking trails, concessions and museums, there are two main deficiencies in the program. The first involves the absence of an effective information-orientation program which identifies alternative user packages according to time availability and activity preferences. The second relates to the limited development of the potential diversity of day user activities. Development of special day user facilities is currently confined to picnic grounds. Wayside exhibits, day canoeing facilities and motor interpretive facilities are but a few of the ways which would assist in providing day visitors with at least a threshold Algonquin experience.

Potential also exists to emphasize the natural character of the landscape along the parkway. A joint Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Transportation and Communications planning group is now involved in this project. During the past two years a program of mulching, seeding and screen planting was undertaken at a number of gravel pits and other disturbed areas along the parkway.

Camping

Developed:	1,325 sites
Proposed:	675 sites

Total: 2,000 sites

Expansion of camping opportunities in the corridor includes the redevelopment of the eight existing campgrounds, adopting a spatial standard of three sites per acre, and the development of a number of new smaller units. The basic strategy is one of expanding camping opportunities, while providing experiences which relate more to the landscape than to facilities. Since campers must frequently travel by automobile to corridor facilities, greater emphasis will be placed upon developing activities and interpretation in areas surrounding campgrounds.

Interior Use

Facilities for interior trippers in the corridor consist of outfitting services and canoe centres at Canoe Lake and Opeongo Lake, and parking and garbage facilities at a number of access points. Canoe centre programs provide orientation and educational information to trippers. Ways to improve these programs and reduce use imbalances are dealt with later.

Lodges, Children's Camps and Cottages

There are three lodges operated by the private sector in the corridor. These provide accommodation for 235 persons, dining facilities, boat and canoe rentals and snack bars. In addition, there are seven children's camps which can accommodate nearly 1,200 children at one time and more than 350 private cottages.

Concessions

Apart from the services mentioned above in conjunction with lodges, there are four concessions in the corridor. The types of concession services and the location where they are provided have an important impact on travel patterns and quality of experience provided all major user groups. As is discussed later, certain existing services could be provided at other locations and some services should not be provided at all, since they do not support the Park goal.

¹The corridor provides access to this number of interior camper days.



Information and Interpretation

It has been suggested previously that information and orientation services associated with the gates, Superintendent's office and campground offices are only partially effective. This is reflected in the difficulty visitors have in relating to Algonquin resources and emphasizes the need to provide special information-orientation facilities in the Park, rather than those which are normally provided in most provincial parks.

The corridor interpretive program is one of the oldest and largest in Canada and employs a wide range of interpretive means and media. The quality of presentations, particularly personal service programs and the resource input to other forms of presentation, is excellent. This reflects the high quality of the Park interpretive staff and their knowledge of Algonquin. Program growth has been somewhat constrained by the need to select an overall course of action for the parkway corridor. Interpretive facilities are scattered through the corridor with major developments being the Museum, Pioneer Logging Exhibit, Pog Lake Outdoor Theatre and a number of interpretive walking trails.

Park Management and Operations

The problems relating to the parkway corridor of Algonquin Park are largely unique to that area. Primarily they can be traced to pressures exerted by public demand. Solutions involve improvements in quality of visitor experience; provision of a greater variety of activities; greater diversification in types of user experiences; provision of facilities to accommodate greater numbers of day users, campers and trippers; improvements in the quality of services and facilities and realignment of the same to ensure their support of the Park goal; and provision of additional public recreational space through the phased removal of cottages and the elimination of timber harvesting in the corridor.



Plan Framework

The plan defines a functional program for visitor use of the corridor. It is divided into three parts: management systems, visitor experiences, and facilities and services.

From an operating viewpoint, the corridor program breaks down into a number of inter-related management systems of various types and scales. Some are visitor-oriented, while others are maintenance-oriented. The overall scale of the program permits the adoption of a systems approach in operating the area, providing an opportunity to develop staff specialists. In smaller parks, staff members are often required to serve a number of functions and, as a result, are less effective in some areas than a specialist would be. Coordination requirements are greater, however, with a systems approach and this need has been given special emphasis.

The primary role of administration is to relate visitors to Park values. If values are not interpreted effectively, visitors may come to expect a type of experience which is inappropriate to Algonquin, and eventually the Park could be degraded. The danger then is that a new generation of visitors may accept these lower standards as a norm, and may be unaware that they have been deprived of the quality experiences which ought to have been part of their heritage.

Visitor experiences are used in the corridor plan as the basic measure of program output. These are qualitative measures expressed quantitatively as the number of visitors involved with each type of experience and level of satisfaction. Efforts in visitor experience design have considered both the provision of new types of facilities and services and the alternative ways facilities and services can be used.

The final segment of the parkway corridor plan deals with individual facilities and services, which are the basic program components. They can be combined, in providing an element of varying significance, in any one of a number of types of visitor experience. They can also be involved with one or a number of management systems.

Current and proposed services and facilities in the corridor present the largest and most complex park development in Ontario. This development and the resources of the corridor provide a great diversity of recreational opportunities and one of the most difficult management situations, which, in turn, is complicated by the linear nature of the corridor.

In effect, the parkway corridor plan consists of facilities and services tied together for public use through activity packages which are designed to achieve selected types of visitor experience. To maximize management effectiveness, various activity packages make use of common facility and service elements to meet similar visitor needs.



Management Systems

Corridor management systems can be broadly classified as being visitor service or support service systems. Visitor service systems break down into information, interpretation, concession and campground systems. Support service systems include both maintenance and administration systems.

Information System

The information system envisioned for the corridor itself and Algonquin Park as a whole will involve various means and types of locations, both within and outside the Park.

The out-of-Park information program will rely heavily upon publications and the provincial park system information service at Queen's Park. Secondary support is seen coming from information sources in other parks and government offices.

The parkway corridor information system is of critical importance to visitors. The concept being developed for this area places heavy dependence upon the information program "delivering" people to individual activity locations in numbers which correspond with the location's visitor capacity and as parts of specifically designed experiences. This means that visitor activity patterns must be largely influenced by the information program.

The information system for the corridor will provide for the needs of the users of this area and the interior. Basically, the system will be structured around the varying needs of the major user groups. A day visitor must be processed through an entrance control point and be provided with the information he requires to get the most out of his visit. By comparison, the camper must first be identified at the control point and be provided with the information he requires to select the campsite which is best suited to his needs and preferences. After he is settled on his site, he then requires information on activities. Both information and activities for the camper should be provided at or as close as possible to the campground. The interior user, on passing the control point, must be diverted to an information facility where he can also purchase his camping permit.

All parkway users will be required to stop at an entrance control point during the Park operating season. The most important function of the staff here will be to sort visitors and direct them to their appropriate information facility. This is easier to effect with interior users and campers than it is with day visitors who have no real requirement to have further contact with Ministry personnel.

The control function will be relocated in new structures near the Park boundaries rather than at the current East and West Gate sites.

Day user parties will be identified at a control kiosk. Parties stopping only for a meal or gas or to shop at a lodge or concession and through travellers are not required to possess a vehicle entry permit. This group will not be directed specifically to any information facilities, although they will be invited, through the use of a small hand-out information card, to use the major information facilities and to tune in on their car radio to the radio information and interpretation messages.

The paying day user group will be provided with a highway guide brochure, in addition to the information card, and be directed to an information centre at a nearby gate.

A sign telling people to tune their radio to a particular frequency should be conspicuously located between the control point and information centre. A 30-second message, repeatedly transmitted, could describe the information services available ahead. These facilities require Canadian Radio and Television Commission approval.

Information centres at the gates will be the key delivery points in the information system, especially for day visitors and to a significant degree for interior travellers and some corridor campers. They will be manned during periods of peak demand and provide information on a self-serve basis at other times. Interior camping permits for access points in the parkway area will be issued from them.

Beyond the services provided by the information centres, day visitors will be on their own in organizing their activities. They will, however, have opportunities to have questions answered by Ministry personnel at various locations such as the Museum, Superintendent's Office and campground offices. In addition, concession staff and other visitors serve as information sources. Like day users, campers will be identified at the control kiosk and given a publication which will describe the location and character of each campground. This will allow the camper to select the area which appears to best suit him and satisfy his first need of settling into a site. An information service at the campground office will describe activities available near the campground and opportunities elsewhere in the corridor. In the case of some hike-in or paddle-in sites, registration will be handled at the information centres.



Interior users will be identified at the control points and directed to the information centres to purchase interior camping permits. Here, information needed to take part in any activity or to travel in the interior will be provided in take-along form.

Interior travel routes or destinations will be recommended on the basis of a number of criteria. Basically people will be directed to areas they might be particularly interested in visiting. Such an area might be a destination or a highlight of a trip or one of a number of features that the party might wish to include in their trip. The trip design may be limited by the canoe-camping ability of the group or possibly by the time available. Trip design could also be limited by the number of people using the interior at one time. Under no circumstances can unlimited use of access points, such as has happened at Canoe Lake, continue. The interior information program will better distribute use, primarily by recommending use of a number of corridor access points and related routes which currently receive little use. An improved distribution and combination of outfitting and interior educational service locations for novice trippers will assist in achieving this end.

Interpretation System

The Algonquin parkway corridor interpretive program attempts to increase visitors' understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the Park. Most people are familiar with the basic means and media employed in program presentations. They are not familiar with the system of themes around which both individual presentations and the entire program are structured. Park themes are the main subject areas about which some form of public communication is required. Some are major themes upon which major emphasis must be placed, while others may only be of deep interest to a specialized interest group. A range of means and media may be employed to present the same theme. Different examples of situations in the Park may also be used to develop a theme. The intent in thematic presentations is not to convey facts, but rather to instill an attitude toward the subject being communicated.

The following is a summary of Park themes:

1. *Algonquin, A Product of Geologic Processes*

The Algonquin scene can be considered from a geological perspective. The construction of the present landscape provides a unifying theme. Major elements appear as intrinsic components of interpretive presentations, e.g.:

- (a) the Algonquin dome, bedrock and glacial features, watershed characteristics.
- (b) physiography's influence on human history, resource use and management.
- (c) geology related to biota through soils.

2. *Native Animals and Floral Cover*

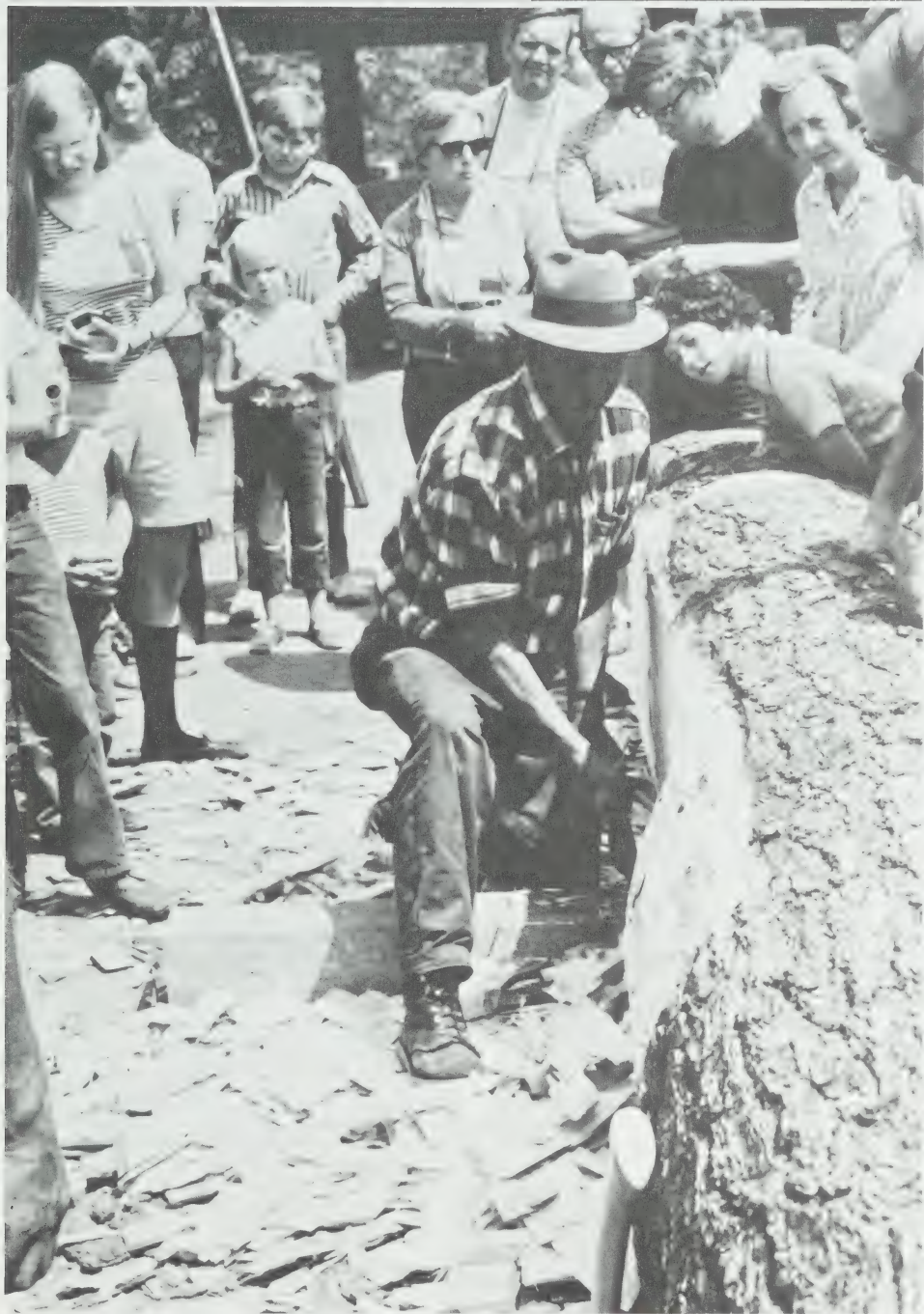
Algonquin has a varied and fascinating flora and fauna. An ecosystem approach can be used. Several basic groups of presentations are thought of:

- (a) treatment of the flora: communities and the orderly process of community change in a given area.
- (b) the wildlife resource: conspicuous mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish and their ecological niches.
- (c) habitats of Algonquin: maple forest, black spruce bog, lakeshore, burn, stream.
- (d) effect of the Algonquin Highlands' climate on plant and animal life.
- (e) meeting of northern and southern forms of life.
- (f) relationship of man, primarily man-caused change, to wildlife and forest resources, e.g. deer, pine, trout, bass.

3. *Man in the Algonquin Environment*

Man's role, past and present, and the relationship of man and his needs to the environment is considered. The theme can be unfolded in the following manner:

- (a) Indian and early Caucasian visitors.
- (b) lumbering and railways.
- (c) creation of Algonquin Provincial Park, the first provincial park in Ontario.
- (d) resource management:
 - (i) outdoor recreation: encouragement of a diversity of low intensity recreational uses which are consistent with the wilderness environment.
 - (ii) forests: protection of the headwaters of Park rivers and the recreational environment, provision of a sustained yield of timber products and other renewable resource materials from a healthy forest of native tree species.
 - (iii) fisheries: sustained yield of native species, primarily brook trout and lake trout.
 - (iv) wildlife: protection, particularly wilderness species such as marten, fisher and timber wolf.
 - (v) natural communities and outstanding features: preservation, research and education.
- (e) research: forest, wildlife, fisheries and recreation.



4. The Algonquin Wilderness

The significance of the Park lies in its wilderness character. Aesthetic, inspirational and biological aspects of the wilderness environment are used to motivate visitors to explore the Park. The subject can be broken down as follows:

- (a) the natural beauty: flora, fauna, landscape features.
- (b) preservation of Park features: wolves, old pine stands, historic sites.
- (c) Tom Thomson "The Algonquin artist", and Kirkwood, who envisioned the Park, were inspired by the Algonquin wilderness.
- (d) the Algonquin wilderness today, the many recreational uses and values it provides to visitors: canoeing, solitude, hiking, swimming and camping.

Concession System

The concession system provides essential goods and services for visitors on a purchase or rental basis. These goods and services are provided to meet visitor needs rather than attempting to capitalize upon a business opportunity. In many parks, visitor needs may be accommodated by private sector development located outside of the park. The distances involved in the corridor make this impractical.

A visitor need, in terms of the goods and services provided by a corridor concession, is defined as supporting the Park goal while meeting the basic physical and activity needs of visitors. This definition suggests some services do not support the Park goal, or support the goal more in one form than another. The degree of service is considered and the definition also suggests that some goods and services may be suitable if provided in one location but not in another. This latter statement has two aspects: the service or goods might be better located with respect to a single use pattern or it may conflict, because of location, with other use patterns.

The types of concession services and the locations where they are provided have an important impact on travel patterns and the quality of experience provided for all user groups. This principle and the definition of an acceptable, yet essential concession service have been applied in drafting the concession proposals detailed in the facility and service section. Souvenirs, in particular, will be limited to Indian arts and crafts.

Campground System

A diversity of campground types and related camping experiences is proposed. Campgrounds are to be categorized on an access basis as hike-in, paddle-to and drive-in campgrounds. There will also be differences in size and facilities. Corridor campgrounds will be located primarily on lakes, but also on rivers and in a variety of forest cover conditions. Degree of shade will vary amongst sites and campgrounds. Campground size will vary from 250 sites in an individual camping area to 15 sites. One campground office will normally service more than one campground area.

Larger campgrounds will be more facility-oriented than the smaller, more environmentally-oriented campgrounds. Sites in larger campgrounds are to be designed to accommodate larger camping equipment, while sites in smaller areas are to permit only tents. Tables and firegrills will be provided on sites in all types of campgrounds. Comfort stations will be provided in larger campgrounds and vault privies in smaller areas. Shower and laundromat facilities will not be expanded. In small campgrounds, drinking water is to be provided using sealed hand pumps, while chlorinated pressure systems are to be maintained in larger campgrounds. In these latter areas, wood will be available from a central wood yard accessible by car. Campers will be required to pack or paddle in their wood supply from parking lots servicing smaller campgrounds. At smaller campgrounds, campers will also pack out their garbage to the parking lot. Food pack racks will be provided on sites in this type of campground for protection from bears.

Garbage in the larger campgrounds is currently handled by providing a can at each site and a daily pick-up service. This is being replaced by a bear-proof system involving the issue of a large garbage bag for each day the site is registered and large bear-proof disposal units servicing sections of campgrounds. The future direction in corridor campgrounds will be to not exceed the existing level of facility servicing in areas which are currently in use and to provide fewer or more primitive facilities in new campgrounds.

Campgrounds are all operated on a "find a site of your choice and register later" basis. This system presents certain control problems and results in more traffic in drive-in campgrounds. These problems are minor and are outweighed by the benefits of visitors being able to select the campground and site which best suits their needs. In hike-in or paddle-in campgrounds, it will be necessary to implement a "register first by selecting your site from a map in the campground office" system. As demand increases, it may be essential in time to adopt some form of reservation system.



Maintenance System

The corridor maintenance system involves a complex and diverse series of daily and annual operations which are essential in maintaining a suitable level of quality in visitor services and facilities.

The basic strategy in the maintenance system involves working from a centralized headquarters near Lake of Two Rivers and the use of staff in individual functions using specialized equipment.

Improvements have been made recently in waste disposal methods. Instead of garbage being deposited in a dozen or more open dumps in the corridor, all such materials are now forwarded to one point, incinerated and the non-burnable wastes disposed of in an adjacent sanitary landfill. Earth pit toilets have been replaced by total retention vaults, septic systems and lagoons.

Administrative System

The corridor administrative structure had numerous levels in the past and was almost entirely dependent upon seasonal staff. Both the number of administrative levels and the ratio of seasonal to year-round staff have recently been reduced.

Two basic types of function exist under the Superintendent in the administrative organization for the corridor. The first is visitor services involving information, interpretation, education and research. The second involves operations and development, that is development, maintenance and the aspects of operations not involved with the visitor service function.

Visitor Experiences

The process of designing visitor experiences is a continuing one involving both planning and implementation of new approaches. A revised, coordinated framework is required to place emphasis upon the provision of high quality visitor experiences as the output of the overall corridor program. To date, more emphasis has been placed on activities than visitor experience.

The first step in the design process of visitor experience involves the identification and documentation of all known resources in the parkway corridor which have any visitor experience value. These resources include natural and cultural values as well as facilities and services. While some of these resources are fragile, they can still be employed effectively in off-site presentations.

Drawing together all known information on corridor resources is a very large and important task. It is recognized as one of the priority functions of the information services supervisor for the Park.

The second step involves analysis of the resource data. This requires that the data be classified to allow later assembly of activity packages intended to provide a particular type of experience and associated level of satisfaction. Resources should be described relative to major user groups and activities, and also be mapped to provide a graphic representation of resource groupings.

The last step involves the actual design of visitor experiences.

The emphasis here is placed not only upon the provision of new types of facilities and services, but also upon the alternative ways in which facilities, services, natural and cultural values can be used.

An additional aim in visitor experience design involves getting people out into the Park. With the day visitor, it means getting him out of and away from his car. This can be accomplished by clustering activities and by only taking people into buildings where it is absolutely necessary. When a building is used, it is on the basis of the communication need and the number of visitors which can only receive the information involved through a building presentation. The Museum is a good example of where the program has been developed to introduce basic Park values and to encourage use of them on the ground.

Control points will be used to sort out major user types and then the information centres at the gates and campground offices will be the principal locations where the Ministry will influence use of the parkway corridor along designed visitor experience lines. Staff and take-along publications are seen as being the major delivery means employed at these locations, although the staff will, as the program evolves, be supplied with other means of support such as maps, exhibits and slide-tape programs. The program at these locations will have built-in controls to disperse use in line with the physical capacities of the sites involved and the degree of crowding that can be permitted.



Facilities and Services

There are a number of possible ways of grouping the descriptions of future facilities and services in the parkway corridor. One approach involves grouping on a management system basis. A second approach might group the facilities and services involved in providing a certain type of visitor experience. Another approach might group the descriptions of facilities and services that are to be retained as they presently exist, that are to be altered in some significant manner, that are to be phased out, and finally the new facilities and services. A combination of the first and third approaches has been selected. The former assists in sorting out the maze of facilities and services in the corridor and the resultant need for visitor experience design. The latter provides an overview of the degree of change being proposed. Unfortunately the visitor experience approach would involve considerable repetition, cross-referencing and detail.

Information Facilities and Services Plan

Retain:

West Boundary Marker

East Boundary Marker—Retain, but incorporate Park logo.

Phase out:

Canoe Lake Canoe Centre

Opeongo Lake Canoe Centre—Eliminate both of these temporary facilities when their basic information-permit issuing function is relocated in the information centres at the East and West Gates. Canoe safety officer aspect of program to be continued at Canoe Lake and Opeongo Lake.

Alter:

West Gate Information Centre—To function as described earlier in the plan incorporating the existing gate building in the information centre development. Existing staff quarters will continue to serve these facilities; however, they will be relocated out of public view (Figure 7).

East Gate Information Centre—As above incorporating existing gate building.

Park Headquarters—Presently called Algonquin Park Information Centre. Will cease to be called this when new information facilities open at gates. Information will continue to be available here and it will continue to function as the Superintendent's office in handling visitor problems.

New:

Western Entrance Control Point—Basically an access control point, entry permits issued. To be located near Park Lake.

Eastern Entrance Control Point—As above and located near Old Gate Lake.

Radio Information—Planned between the control points and information centres to aid in visitor orientation.

Signs—The Park's identity will be established through appropriate and uniform, distinctive design in all forms of signs.

Interpretive Facilities and Services Plan

Retain:

Booth's Rock Trail—Retain, with theme of "man and the Algonquin environment". Trail guide dispensing device provided. Guides free, if replaced in the dispenser after use, or kept upon payment of a ten cent fee.

Lookout Trail (North)—Recently reopened north lookout trail will have a geological theme and trail guide publication. Publication dispenser will be provided here, and on all other self-guiding trails in time.

Spruce Bog Boardwalk—Construction recently completed. Bog theme, trail guide, parking lot. Viewing tower is required.

Beaver Pond Trail—New trail and parking lot at Amikeus Lake constructed recently. Trail guide being used.

Two Rivers Trail—Retain, with new trail guide having conifer-mixedwood forest theme.

Hemlock Bluff Trail—Retain, with new trail guide having Park research theme.

Hardwood Lookout Trail—Retain, with new trail guide having tolerant hardwood forest theme.

Opeongo Road Lookout, Ouse Lake Trail, Lookout Trail (South), Davies' Bog Trail, Spruce Bog Boardwalk, Whiskey Rapids Trail, Smith Lake Trail, Canisbay Lake Conducted Canoe Hike, Peck Lake Trail, Tanamakoon Trail, Rock Lake Campground Trail, Cache Lake Trail, Found Lake Trail, Old Railway Crossing Trail, Source Lake Trail—Maintain these 15 conducted hike locations. Conduct hikes twice daily during July and August, rotating hike locations and including special program of early morning bird hikes and conducted canoe trips.

The Raven—First published in the spring and then weekly during July and August. "The Raven" presents a wide variety of articles about Algonquin and current events in the Park.

Special Group Programs—Talks, conducted hikes, evening programs, tours and wolf howls are available at any time to visiting groups. Advance reservations are preferred so programs may be tailored to meet the needs of the group.

Davies' Bog Pull-out—Retain for use as conducted hike parking area. Small wayside exhibit with conifer forest or other appropriate theme being considered.

Algonquin Parkway Corridor major information and interpretation facilities

- 3 Phase out

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 West Gate Information Centre | 5 Canoe Lake Canoe Centre | 9 Tom Thomson Exhibit Centre | 13 Madawaska Parkway |
| 2 East Gate Information Centre | 6 Opening Up Canoe Centre | 10 Mowat Complex | 14 Dist. Exhibit Centre |
| 3 Western Entrance Control Point | 7 Pog Lake Outdoor Theatre | 11 Nature Museum | |
| 4 Eastern Entrance Control Point | 8 Museum | 12 Nominigan | |

North



Marion's Bay Pull-out—This pleasant spot provides an opportunity for wayside interpretation of the geology and natural beauty of the Smoke Lake basin. Picnicking facilities will not be provided, but parking improvements are required.

Pog Lake Outdoor Theatre—Retain, making minor road improvements, stabilizing the soil in seating area, enlarging the screen and widening the seating area. Evening programs are presented nightly during July and August with a format involving two films, a live slide talk and question period. Special weekly wolf howling programs are held during August.

Woodisia scopulina Natural Zone—Preserve this rare stand, interpret off-site, prohibit collections, do not reveal stand location.

Minto Lake Maple-Yellow Birch Stand—Preserve for educational, scientific and special interest group use.

Costello Creek Bog—Preserve for aesthetic, interpretive and educational purposes.

Mowat—Retain as is until the rich interpretive potential of this site is further investigated.

Rock Paintings, Vision Pits, Rock Cairns and

Petroglyphs—Require preservation through off-site interpretation. Site locations will not be revealed.

Phase out:

Beaver Pond Trail (near Pog Lake)—Now closed, because it lacks an active beaver colony. Beavers may reoccupy pond and trail could again be used.

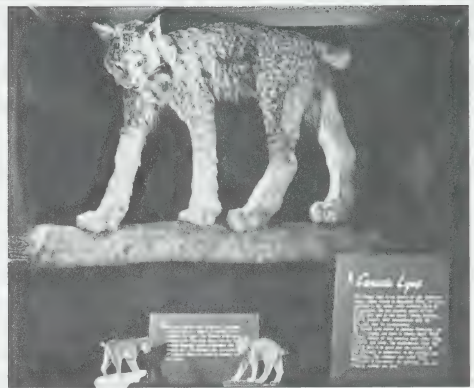
Hardwood Hill Trail—Now closed because Hardwood Lookout Trail is a more appropriate location to interpret Algonquin hardwood forest theme.

Lookout Trail (South)—Requires a period of rest from past heavy use. Being used as a conducted hike location in the interim and then will be rotated with north trail.

Pioneer Logging Exhibit—Replace this exhibit centre possibly with a complex at Mowat.

Alter:

Museum—There is insufficient space for the Museum to serve its current functions and there is no space for expansion. However, this building can serve as a needed education and research centre. Here special groups will be presented with in-depth programs and Ministry research programs centred and integrated with the basic Park program. Theatre, laboratory, lecture room, archival, library and working space can be made available to both groups. A professional interpreter will be responsible for the operation of the facility.



Tour Boat Service—The "Miss Algonquin" tour boat service has been discontinued on Canoe Lake. Studies will be conducted at the beginning of the master plan review period to determine an appropriate means and location to provide opportunities for those who because of choice, time availability or physical capability are unable to experience the special qualities of Algonquin waterways.

New:

Tom Thomson Exhibit Centre—Exhibits and theatre presentations to be located in a building which will be developed near Canoe Lake to interpret this important aspect of the Algonquin story. Additional study of this subject is required.

Peck Lake Trail—New trail to be developed with a parking lot and trail guide. Small Algonquin lake theme to be used discussing fisheries management, ecological and physical characteristics. Put-and-take fishery and trout fishing technique information to be available.

Oxtongue River Trail—A new trail should be developed with a trail guide. Algonquin river theme to be used discussing ecological and physical characteristics.

Mowat Complex—Access may be via an interpretive motor trail following the old Oxtongue Road from Tea Dam. Mowat is the leading candidate site for the major interpretive complex in Algonquin dealing with the theme of "man and the Algonquin environment". Use would be made of Mowat's rich historical resources.

Nature Museum—This facility will function as the major natural history interpretation station in the Park. The presentations envisioned will emphasize development which places visitors in closer contact with the environment after an initial in-building contact. The new museum will be located on the later proposed Madawaska motor trail.

Lake of Two Rivers Lookout—Lookout and wayside exhibit having an Algonquin landscape theme. Excellent view of the Lake of Two Rivers basin.

Lake of Two Rivers Pull-out—A pull-out here will allow visitors to pause and enjoy the beauty of the lake. Its various moods should be interpreted at a small wayside exhibit.

Algonquin Cliffs Pull-out—A wayside pull-out and exhibit east of the Camp Douglas Road will interpret this erosional feature.

Jake Lake Pull-out—A fishing theme will be developed in a small wayside exhibit. Few people know what, where, how to fish and what success to expect in Algonquin. A handout publication could provide additional information.

Brewer Lake Pull-out—This resting area is the best place in the corridor to watch the sun set. A small wayside exhibit will be used to develop interest in this location.

Radar Hill Pull-out—A small wayside exhibit will describe wildlife viewing opportunities and provide information on what to look for, how and where, and results to be expected.

Coot Lake Pull-out—A wayside exhibit will describe the basic western Algonquin pattern of rock-rimmed lakes, evergreen shores and maple hills.

Ring-necked Pond Pull-out—To interpret rationale for the name of the pond and draw attention to the wildlife viewing potential.

Nominigan—Consideration is being given to the retention of this historic building and the Ministry establishing a cultural centre to encourage further expression of the Algonquin heritage by artists, composers and others.

Madawaska Motor Trail—An eight mile long, one-way, self-guiding auto tour route will link points of interpretive and scenic interest. It would provide day visitors with an excellent opportunity to experience the Algonquin environment. Wayside exhibits and other interpretive devices will be installed at key points.

Deer Exhibit Centre—Will be developed in the Cache Lake deer yard near the beginning of the Madawaska motor trail to interpret the story of white-tailed deer in Algonquin Park.

Radio Interpretation—Planned at key points along the parkway to focus attention on points of interest.

Television Interpretation—Special television programs can be used to effectively relate Ontario residents to Algonquin's special qualities and activities.

Slide-tape Programs and Films—Several new programs are being developed to deal with various aspects of Algonquin resources, values, use and management. These will be used in association with previously described facilities or in special presentations in and outside of the Park.

Publications—In addition to existing Park information and interpretation publications, a number of new publications are planned in association with certain previously described facilities and to serve special interpretive needs for take-along information. A need is recognized for a greater general dependence upon a wider range of publications.

Visitor Activity and Service Facilities Plan

Retain:

Algonquin Park Post Office—This facility exists to serve leaseholders. It will be retained for this purpose until the bulk of the leases expire. In the long term, all Ministry mail will be channelled through Whitney.

Lake of Two Rivers Picnic Area—Retain basically as is and acquire adjacent lease to allow expansion to the west (Figure 8).

Cache Lake Picnic Area

Hardwood Hill Picnic Area—These popular lunch stops and resting areas require landscaping to provide a degree of buffer from the parkway and to provide shade.

Brook Trout Fisheries—36 lakes. Manage to optimize yield to campers and summer users. Trails exist to most lakes which do not appear to have developed access.

Lake Trout Fisheries—17 lakes. Manage to optimize and sustain yield during the open water period.

Smallmouth Bass Fisheries—20 lakes. Management limited to protection of spawning fish by timing of beginning of season.

Arowhon-Taylor Statten Road—Retain as a private road until commercial leases expire. This road will also serve as a timber haul road except during July and August.

Algonquin Parkway (Highway 60)—Retain present location and control. One-half mile might possibly be rerouted north of the existing right-of-way near the Museum. Aesthetic improvement plan being developed and implemented jointly by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications and the Ministry of Natural Resources. This involves hot-spotting problem areas, such as gravel pits and other scars, and mapping a plan of aesthetic improvement along the entire length of the parkway right-of-way within the Park.

Canoe Lake Access Point—Retain, but improve parking organization and landscape. Better dispersion of interior users, changes in Portage Store services, elimination of canoe centres and expiry of leases should reduce parking demand.

Source Lake Access Point

Cache Lake Access Point

Smoke Lake Access Point—Retain, but improve parking organization and landscape parking areas. Garbage drop-off facilities provided recently for leaseholders and interior users.

Canoe Route Access Points—Ten locations: Pinetree Portage, Opeongo Lake, Sunday Creek, Madawaska River between Rock Lake and Whitefish Lake, Cache Lake, Canisbay Lake, Source Lake, Canoe Lake, Smoke Lake and Oxtongue River near Tea Dam. In most cases, opportunities exist for day canoeing and also extended trips. Some portage and interior campsite development will be required along routes in the parkway corridor.

Phase Out:

Canisbay Lake Picnic Area—Use this area, which has received limited use as a picnic area, as part of the Canisbay Lake Campground.

Costello Creek Picnic Area—Unsuitable site which should be abandoned and native vegetation returned.

McRae's Sawmill—Eliminate as soon as operations cease, rehabilitate site and clean up pine storage area in Speckled Trout Lake.



Alter:

Lake of Two Rivers Airfield—This area will no longer function as a public airfield. It will be managed for blueberries and general recreational use associated with nearby campgrounds.

Highland Hiking Trail—Entrance has been relocated near Pewee Lake to make the trail more accessible. The new entrance provides an excellent view of the Two Rivers Basin and the South Madawaska River waterfall along the first portion of the trail.

Little Madawaska River Picnic Area—Proper picnicking facilities required along with landscaping. A wayside exhibit explaining the effect of beaver on Algonquin streams is planned. Related viewing potential exists as does the possibility of interpreting the remains of an old logging camp.

Trailer Sanitary Station—This facility will be central to the trailer camping population in the corridor after campground redevelopment and the development of new areas is completed. Facilities at the current location have recently been doubled.

Opeongo Lake Access Point—Redevelop in line with concession changes. Launching ramp, unloading area and parking for 400 vehicles is required.

Oxtongue River Picnic Area—Landscape and expand the parking area to provide for visitors using the Westward Lake Hike-in Campground and Western Uplands Hiking Trail. Foot bridge across the river is required. A wayside exhibit-orientation centre will describe the hiking trail and hike-in campground, and interpret the Oxtongue Valley.

New:

Costello Lake Hike-in Picnic Area—Replace Costello Creek Picnic Area and provide a picnic ground near the eastern end of the corridor. This picnic area will be developed in a white birch stand on the north shore of the lake. The beach can be improved for bathing.

Smoke Lake Paddle-in Picnic Area—Water and toilet facilities along with picnic tables for day-users to be provided at this location. Bathing is good.

Norway Lake Paddle-in Picnic Area—Toilets and tables provided after a paddle through an attractive bog and stream system. Visitors required to bring their own water; no fires or bathing.

Lake of Two Rivers East Beach Picnic Area (28 acres)—To be developed as the major day use bathing and picnicking area in the corridor.

Tea Dam Picnic Area—This picturesque location to be developed as a picnic area. History of site requires interpretation. Starting point for canoe trips on the Oxtongue River. Indian arts and crafts concession will be relocated in gift sale areas in existing concessions.

Heron Lake Picnic Area—Small picnic area adjacent to West Gate Information Centre utilizing common parking area and interconnected by a short walking trail.

Carisbay Lake Access Point—Day use access to lake involving conducted canoe hikes and fishing primarily, access to 55 hike-in and boat-in sites, fuelwood, garbage disposal facilities. **Western Uplands Hiking Trail**—To leave Oxtongue River Picnic Area to Maple Leaf Lake, Maggie Lake, Pincher Lake, Islet Lake, Brown Lake, Furrow Lake, Loft Lake, Rainbow Lake, Lupus Lake, Guskewau Lake and return, covering nearly 75 miles. A shorter loop may be developed linking Pincher Lake and Rainbow Lake via Tern Lake and Otterpaw Lake.

Clarke Lake Junior Ranger Camp—Will be moved from Whitefish Lake to a permanent quarters on Clarke Lake, providing accommodation for 24 boys, 17 years of age.

Camp Algonquin—To be operated on a trial basis for two or three years on Whitefish Lake. Temporary trailer accommodation to be provided for approximately 55 less advantaged, 12 to 16 year old boys and girls during each of four, two-week camping periods in July and August. Trial operation to be conducted by the YMCA's Toronto Camping Service.

Program developed in cooperation with Ministry staff will focus upon Park values and take advantage of existing services available in the corridor. The experience gleaned from this experiment will assist in designing future youth camp programs in the Park. These will be developed away from major use areas and will be independent of public visitor service programs.

Opeongo River Bicycle Trail—Bicycling is allowed on specially developed trails because it affords visitors an opportunity to fit noiselessly into, while appreciating, natural surroundings. One trail is proposed following the old Lakewoods Road from the parkway via McCauley Lake to the Opeongo River.

Horseback Trail System—During the period of master plan review, consideration will be given to the possibility of establishing a "pack and saddle" concession operation and trail system in an area southwest of Whitefish Lake.

Figure 8

Algonquin Parkway Corridor Campgrounds,
Concessions, Picnic Areas and other
major Visitor Service Facilities



Scale: One inch equals 2 1/2 miles



- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Lake of Two Rivers Picnic Area | 6 Lake of Two Rivers East Beach Picnic Area | 14 Kearney Lake Campground | 25 Lake of Two Rivers East Campground |
| 2 Cache Lake Picnic Area | 7 Tea Dam Picnic Area | 15 Pog Lake Campground | 26 Whitefish Lake Group Campground |
| 3 Little Madawaska River Picnic Area | 8 Heron Lake Picnic Area | 16 Mow Lake Campground | 27 Openego Lake Concession |
| 4 Costello Lake Hike-in Picnic Area | 9 Highland Hiking Trail | 17 Tea Lake Campgrounds | 28 Lake of Two Rivers Concession |
| 5 Smoke Lake Paddle-in Picnic Area | 10 Western Uplands Hiking Trail | 18 Caribay Lake Campground | 29 Parlage Store |
| | 11 Openego River Bicycle Trail | 19 Rock Lake Campground | |
| | 12 Camp Algonquin | 20 Caribay Lake Hike-in and Paddle-in Campground | |
| | 13 Lake of Two Rivers Campground | 21 Source Lake Campgrounds | |
| | | 22 Cache Lake Islands Paddle-in Campgrounds | |
| | | 23 Whitefish Bulls Campground | |
| | | 24 Westwood Lake Hike-in Campground | |



Campground Plan

Retain:

Lake of Two Rivers Campground (240 sites)—Minor changes needed include a footbridge to the airfield, campground information exhibit and control from near the existing Mew Lake campground office.

Phase Out:

Opeongo Lake Campground—(33 sites)—Unsuitable site for campground. Area required for concession development and parking.

Alter:

Kearney Lake Campground—(Approx. 80 sites)—Redevelop from 105 to 80 sites, utilize a new office to be built south of the parkway near the original Pog Lake Campground Entrance. Campground information exhibit required here and in all other campgrounds.

Pog Lake Campground—(Approx. 250 sites)—Redevelop from 307 to 250 sites and use a new office to be built to service a number of campgrounds in this area.

Mew Lake Campground—(Approx. 125 sites)—Redevelop from 155 to 125 sites and build a new office servicing Lake of Two Rivers and Mew Lake Campgrounds.

Tea Lake Campground (East and West)—(Approx. 55 sites)—In line with the policy of providing small organized campground units having road, trail or water access which are more intimately related to the environment and to its carrying capacity, a redesign of the two areas will be carried out. This will involve a reduction from the present 79 to 55 sites. Landscaping with large tree stock is required in both areas.

Canisbay Lake Campground—(Approx. 250 sites)—Being redeveloped and expanded from 150 to 250 sites. A new office and staff quarters have been built.

Coon Lake Campground—(Approx. 25 sites)—Redevelop 47 existing to 25 sites. Continue to operate from Rock Lake office until new control point is developed.

Rock Lake Campground—(Approx. 250 sites)—The existing Baulke and Rock campground areas require redevelopment. The control point will be relocated north of the Coon Lake campground near the parkway to eliminate day use and direct camping and interior use to desired locations. A 258 acre potential development area is situated along the southeastern shore of Whitefish Lake and the Madawaska River between Rock Lake and Whitefish Lake. Leasehold land availability and road relocation are important in the development of this area. Concession needs will be reassessed. Indian site interpretation should be considered.

Whitefish Lake Group Campground—(Approx. 25 sites)—A manned control structure has been built a short distance south of the parkway. This campground will continue to be operated on a partial reservation system until demand requires a total reservation system. Some reserve development area exists that will allow an increase in the number of sites from 20 to 25. Beach, information and activity area improvements are needed.

New:

Canisbay Lake Hike-in and Paddle-in Campgrounds—(Approx. 55 sites)—Individual family sites, drilled wells, vault privies, fuelwood provided at landing, garbage bags issued, regular campground charge, circum-shoreline hiking trail and trails leading from the lake to points of interest in areas such as Polly Lake and Olive Lake.

Source Lake Campground—(Approx. 50 sites)—Road access to about 50 sites in two areas at the eastern end of the lake to be developed in line with concept of providing small organized campground units which are intimately related to the environment.

Source Lake Hike-in and Paddle-in Campground—(Approx. 35 sites)—Hiking trail access from Source Lake Campground. Design and operation as in Canisbay Lake proposal.

Cache Lake Islands Paddle-in Campground—(Approx. 50 sites)—Parking to be provided at existing lot, site development similar to that described at Canisbay Lake.

Kearney Lake Hike-in Campground—(Approx. 25 sites)—Access and control via Kearney Campground. Parking area to be developed east of existing campground.

Whitefish Bluffs Campground—(Approx. 200 sites)—Three separate areas here together have the greatest organized campground development potential in the parkway region. Expand beach area, develop interpretive potential and utilize nearby scenic cliffs. Part of area to be used on an interim basis for trial operation of Camp Algonquin.



Opeongo Lake (South Arm) Paddle-in Campground—(Approx. 15 sites)—To be developed on basis of Canisbay proposal within context of total plan for the lake.

Rock Lake Hike-in and Paddle-in Campground—(Approx. 15 sites)—Hike-in along old railway right-of-way from Booth's Rock Trail parking lot or paddle-in from access point.

Oxtongue Paddle-in Campsites—(Approx. 15 sites)—Small complexes to be developed according to interior site standards.

Westward Lake Hike-in Campground—(Approx. 15 sites)—Parking at Oxtongue Picnic Grounds, hiking trail access following scenic north rim of the Oxtongue Valley. Two camping areas.

Lake of Two Rivers East Campground—(Approx. 100 sites)—Area on lake and downstream on river capable of sustaining 100 sites. Beach development required and operational control via Pog - Kearney Campground entrance.

Additional Hike-in and Paddle-in Campgrounds—(Approx. 125 sites)—Potential exists for additional site development on the following lakes: Tea, Canoe, Smoke, Tanamakoon and Cache. The development of these areas requires further study.

Winter Camping, Snowshoe and Cross-Country Ski Trails—These facilities will form the basis for a winter activity package centred in the Lake of Two Rivers area and serviced by car plug-ins and heated comfort station facilities.

Camping Summary:

Car Camping

Tea	55
Kearney	80
Pog	250
Mew	125
Canisbay	250
Two Rivers	240
Source	50
Two Rivers (East)	100
Whitefish	200
Coon	25
Rock	250

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Hike-in or Boat-in Camping

Canisbay	55
Cache	50
Source	35
Opeongo	15
Kearney	25
Rock	15
Oxtongue River	15
Westward	15
Additional sites on five lakes	125
	350

Group Camping

Whitefish Lake	25
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Concessions Plan

Alter:

Opeongo Lake Concession—Complete reconstruction required with emphasis almost totally on interior campers and to a degree interior day users who travel to Opeongo, Merchant, Happy Isle, Proulx, Redrock and the Crow River. This is currently the most important interior day use group. Retain outfitting and guiding services and review need for water taxi service.

Lake of Two Rivers Concession—Souvenir shop will be largely eliminated and replaced with car camper supplies, particularly groceries. This section and the snack bar will both require additional space. The parking area will be enlarged. The Lake of Two Rivers Concession will function as the primary car camper supply location. A small post office serving camper and day use needs will also be established in this facility. Leaseholder postal needs will not be superimposed here with the interim retention of the post office at Cache Lake.

Portage Store—Car camper grocery function is being shifted to Lake of Two Rivers. Outfitting services, restaurant, and all other services are being reviewed. Emphasis in the gift shop will be placed on Indian arts and crafts.

New:

Additional Concession Facilities—May be established to service day and interior camping canoeists at a number of access points such as Smoke Lake or Rock Lake. Canoe handling, interior travel and camping instruction for novices should be provided at certain of these locations by Ministry staff working in conjunction with concessionnaires. Limited groceries may also be sold at Rock Lake. A "pack and saddle" concession operation may possibly be established near Whitefish Lake.

Administration and Maintenance Facilities Plan

Retain:

Incinerator, Sanitary Landfill, Sludge Retention Lagoon—These facilities will handle the garbage generated in and brought out to the corridor and the sludge from vault toilets and septic systems.

Phase Out:

Weldwood Road (Hardwood Hill)—Close when Algonquin Forestry Authority commences operations and rehabilitate entrance at the parkway. Redirect timber haul from September through June after improvements made to the Arowhon-Taylor Staten Road.

Wildlife Research Station—Eliminate and relocate Ministry functions at Fount Lake. Deer holding facilities to be relocated outside Park. Wildlife research area to be incorporated within north Algonquin primitive zone.

Alter:

Harkness Laboratory of Fisheries Research—Reduce scale of program and physical plant to accommodate existing Ministry programs for as long as they continue. New Ministry programs will be centred at Fount Lake.

Smoke Lake Airbase—Once regional aircraft maintenance facilities are established in Huntsville, the hangar and living quarters will be removed and the site rehabilitated. The aircraft and pilot stationed in the Park during the summer will work out of the district office in Whitney and the public float airbase function will be relocated here as well.

National Lumber Road—Snowmobile use has recently been eliminated by rerouting the trail on an old road around the Park. This trail or an alternate will be upgraded to provide year-round road access to the northern portion of Livingstone Township.

Bear-Proof Garbage Facilities—Are being provided throughout the corridor in campgrounds, picnic areas and at access points. *Summer Headquarters*—Corridor operations, maintenance and development headquarters operated first in 1972. Campground staff from Pog, Kearney, Two Rivers and Mew Lake campgrounds accommodated here along with night patrol, area foremen and some of the maintenance staff.

East Gate Complex—Former ranger base offices being used to house the Algonquin Park District staff pending construction of an office in Whitney. Following this, the building will be incorporated in the East Gate Information Centre. No additional family dwellings will be constructed at Clarke Lake; however, a staff quarters for single staff is required. Improved facilities are required in the work area northeast of the gate. The garages, workshop and storage areas west of the gate will be retained.

Scheduling

The previously described facility and service program for the corridor will be completely implemented by 1985. The basic strategy will be to proceed as quickly and effectively as possible in all program areas—information, interpretation, campgrounds and others.



Area Plans

Interior Canoe-Camping Area

A new management approach is essential to preserve the special canoe-camping qualities of Algonquin's interior. This new approach is defined here and presents a comprehensive framework of Ministry policy and procedure directives, regulations, legislation, special rules and objectives. Overall management policies and procedures applicable to work planning and the conduct of management activities in the interior are defined, but short and long term work plans, which detail scheduling and costs by individual project have not been included.

Introduction

Algonquin Provincial Park, the largest canoe-camping park in Ontario, occupies 1,862,500 acres of land and water in the northern part of Southern Ontario. Water makes up approximately 15 percent of the area and allows for 1,500 miles of canoe routes.

Geological events have produced three major topographic systems in the Park. Each system exhibits distinctive patterns and unique features.

The western uplands system is characterized by the right-angled arrangement of land and average elevations ranging from 1,500 feet in the south to 1,200 feet in the north. In this area there is an abundance of rather uniformly distributed small lakes which are linked by relatively short portages. In the central lakes region average elevations are in the neighbourhood of 1,300 to 1,500 feet. The central lakes region is a water-dominated landscape. Distribution of lakes ranges from relatively uniform in the south to a more linear arrangement along the major waterways in the northern and eastern sections of this region. Both the average length and range in length of portages is greater than in the western uplands. Much of the water area and the larger of the Park's lakes and streams occur within this system.

The eastern ridge system presents landscapes on a larger scale than in other areas of the Park. The dominating characteristics of the system are the long, linear scarp patterns and associated waterways where the canoe-camping potential is largely concentrated, and much more level areas of glacial till and sedimentary sands.

Algonquin's waterways have served as travel routes dating back to pre-contact times. At the time of the Park's establishment, records indicate that many of today's portages were used by pioneer lumbermen. The many dams associated with the log drives of that era had an important impact on Algonquin's canoe-camping potential. In fact, the number of canoe routes was increased as more lakes and rivers could be added to the total network because of dam construction. Shoreline evidence of the new water levels has largely disappeared through time.

Administration

There are two work centres in the district: the East Gate near Whitney, and Stonecliffe on the upper Ottawa River. Interior staff in the Stonecliffe area consist of a senior technician, a small technical staff and a number of seasonal employees. In the Whitney area, where the main pressure of use is directed, responsibilities are split between the corridor and the interior. The interior supervisor in the Whitney area operates the most heavily used portion of the interior canoe-camping area with the support of a technical and a large seasonal staff. He also maintains interior-related records and technical data on a Park-wide basis.

Management of the interior involves subdivision of the area into six units. Three units are administered directly from the East Gate and the remaining three, which fall under Stonecliffe, are administered during the Park operating season from Achray, Kiosk and Brent. Within each interior unit, a technician is responsible for canoe-camping, angling, viewing and other recreational activities and timber reserve programs. In certain of these areas, he may also be responsible for canoe centre, trapping, entrance gate, information office, deer range management, bear control, access point and car campground programs. Each interior unit is subdivided into about three patrol zones.

All of the above noted interior staff are directed by an Assistant Superintendent. A second senior staff member directs the interpretive and educational programs, and administers information service and research activities in the interior.

Long Range Aims of Interior Management

The long range aims of interior management are to:

- (1) accommodate the optimum amount and diversity of low intensity recreational, educational and research use on a continuing basis;
 - (2) perpetuate the natural condition of primitive, natural and historic zones and waterways in recreation/utilization zones through management and the application of visitor controls;
 - (3) manage resources in accordance with existing regulations, legislation, policies, procedures, rules and supplemental directions contained in this plan.
- The greatest problem in attaining these aims will involve maintenance of the natural qualities of the area under the impact of increased recreational visitor traffic.
- The short term aim for the interior will see the full number of needed and allowable campsites, portages, entrance facilities, low head dams and administrative structures completed by the end of 1980. By then, existing developments and services will meet all established standards of quality.



General Administration

Except in emergencies and the conduct of official business, all persons who enter the Algonquin interior for recreational purposes will exercise conduct and methods of travel similar to that required of the public and under no circumstances will special travel privileges be considered.

Ministry and forest industry employees who are required to camp overnight in the interior for work the next day, may fish after normal working hours. Ministry crews working in the interior must select campsites with consideration, leaving the best or only campsite on a lake for public use.

Aircraft flights into the interior are authorized in emergency situations. Determination that an emergency exists rests with the Superintendent. Ministry personnel and facilities, not private commercial means, will be used for emergencies and the delivery of messages and in a manner whereby costs can be collected. The following situations constitute an emergency:

1. Death, severe injury or serious illness of a visitor within the area.
2. Notification of a death, severe injury or serious illness to a member of the immediate family.
3. Search for lost persons when there is reason to believe that failure to take immediate and expedient action may result in serious consequences as listed above.

Motorized travel in the conduct of official business is permitted because distances and costs involved would make it impractical to do otherwise. Such travel is minimized within practical limits.

1. *Aircraft.* Aircraft are an essential management tool. Inappropriate use of aircraft will conflict with the basic management objective of providing for solitude and maintaining primitive qualities. Low level flights which follow canoe routes are avoided during the Park operating season.

2. *Motorized land travel.* Use of motorized vehicles for essential administrative and research activities is permissible on the interior road system. Care must be exercised to avoid conflicts with recreational users.

3. *Motor propelled watercraft.* Use of motorized watercraft will generally follow those rules prescribed for the general public. The Superintendent may authorize essential project use when a justifiable need exists; however, such special authorization will normally be limited to other than late June to Labour Day.

4. *Motorized snowcraft.* Snowmobiles may be used when necessary in essential management programs.

5. *Other motorized equipment.* Motorized equipment may be used for fire suppression, construction of park facilities, dam construction and maintenance, road building and timber management. The timing of such use will be planned to minimize conflict with recreationists.

Resource Management

The management of interior resources is treated under six headings: wilderness, recreation, timber, fish and wildlife, soil and mineral, and watershed. The discussion of each involves a statement of an objective and basic prescriptions and policies related to the resource itself and to its relationship with other resources.

Wilderness Management

Wilderness is a characteristic of the land; a distinctive atmosphere which can be readily recognized or felt by a person visiting that land. One characteristic of wilderness is that it must offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. Other dimensions include natural qualities and the absence of human, technological or industrial impact such as roads, garbage and outboard motors. The introduction of large numbers of visitors also tends to erode basic wilderness qualities even with careful management of the other resources and the visitors themselves.

Management direction in this plan has been designed to accommodate recreational use and permit other resource uses in a manner which is consistent with maintaining the basic wilderness qualities of the Park. The use capacities determined for the interior incorporated the need to maintain the wilderness resource to the most practicable degree.

The basic objective in wilderness management is to maintain natural conditions as the ruling principle to which all activities and uses shall normally be subservient, recognizing that Algonquin, because of its history and presently accepted patterns and types of use, is a unique element of the provincial parks system. To achieve this, only those facilities, uses and land treatment measures which protect the area, provide visitor safety and perpetuate or enhance natural conditions will be permitted. Timber management practices in recreation/utilization zones will similarly give consideration to aesthetics in view from recreational travel routes.



Recreation Management

The management of the recreational resources of the interior has a number of special requirements. These include the provision of only those primitive types of recreational improvements and facilities which are necessary for sanitation, fire and site protection and for the protection and safety of users. Recreational facilities will only be established on soil and sites suitable for the type of use in question and at locations which are unobtrusive when viewed from the water. Existing campsites are to be closed where continued use will cause irreparable loss of ground cover, soil or water quality or cause substantial conflict with other users. Campsites will be rehabilitated where necessary to assure a quality experience and prevent resource damage. Temporary closure of campsites may be required for rehabilitation or other purposes.

All users are required to carry out all non-burnable refuse. Beginning in 1975, in areas where waste collection or disposal facilities are not provided, it will be illegal to possess non-burnable food or beverage containers or non-burnable eating utensils other than such containers and eating utensils specifically designed and intended for repeated use, but not including containers on which a deposit is charged. Toilets are maintained and located to control odour and water pollution; existing facilities which do not meet these criteria are to be relocated.

Camping is prohibited at locations which will interfere with natural or historic values. Campsites and campsite access will be located on bedrock wherever possible. Signs are kept to a minimum required for safety and direction. Overnight camping will be limited to developed sites designated by a Ministry fire grill. They will be located throughout the interior to allow for optimum use by providing a sufficient number of properly located sites in line with the physical and perceptual capacity of lakes. Initial efforts to manage, regulate or limit visitor use to prevent damage to basic resources and maintain the primitive atmosphere of the landscape will aim at limiting camping party size to 9, designating lakes where overnight camping only is permitted and assigning daily route quotas through individual access points. Large parties will be allowed to travel and eat together but will be required to break up into camping groups of not more than 9 persons to reduce site impact. Maximum length of stay on an interior site is 16 days in a year and sites may not be left unattended for a period exceeding 48 hours. Finally, except on designated roads, water and air routes, motorized or mechanical transport will be prohibited.

The basic objectives of recreation management in the Algonquin interior are therefore to provide high quality recreational experiences in a natural setting to an optimum number of visitors and to control use to maintain and enhance the natural resources and the primitive character of the area.

Interior recreationists engage in a variety of activities. Most use takes place between late April and Thanksgiving and is primarily oriented to water travel. The general enjoyment of natural conditions plays a key role in nearly all activities and could well be the single most important factor in most recreational visits to the interior.

Past recreational use has been unevenly distributed in the interior. This has occurred due to ease of access, location of outfitting facilities and publications describing canoe routes. It would not be possible to distribute use evenly throughout the area and some segments should be kept more inaccessible and more primitive than others. However, through study of the use patterns now occurring, it has been possible to determine route quotas. These reflect the potential of all areas to accept use on a gradient basis and fully utilize the potential of the entire area, while maintaining an opportunity for solitude. It has also been necessary to plan to adjust the present access structure by limiting length of stay on certain routes to overnight camping only, improving or developing new controlled access points and closing others.

Policies:

Since the primary objective is to provide a high quality recreational experience in a natural setting for an optimum number of people, management policies are designed to permit and encourage a variety of recreational uses to the degree that they are compatible with the maintenance of such conditions, particularly along waterways, portages and hiking trails. Management programs are designed to monitor the area to detect change, either natural or man-caused, and to evaluate its impact. User controls are kept to a minimum level consistent with the capacity and the capability of the area's resources to withstand various interrelated uses. Management decisions favour perpetuation of the opportunity for water travel and primitive camping in a natural setting. Management programs are designed and implemented: (1) to protect the area through education, enforcement and placement of limited site protection facilities; (2) to regulate through management of the resource and to foster regulations needed to perpetuate the character of the area; and (3) to conduct management programs in a manner compatible with public use and as unobtrusively as possible.



Canoeing. Canoeing is the area's traditional means of transportation and will have preference in management decisions. The use of outboard motors or other motorized devices to propel canoes is limited to a few lakes.

Boating. Boating is permitted in Algonquin, but the use of outboard motors or other motorized propellants is restricted by regulation. The use of portage wheels or mechanical equipment for portaging of watercraft is restricted.

Fishing and Hunting. Fishing is permitted in seasons during the open water period of the year, but is restricted in core primitive zones and watershed natural zones. The use of live bait fish is prohibited. Hunting is only permitted in the Townships of Bruton and Clyde.

Swimming. No beaches or other associated improvements will be developed in the interior.

Camping. Campsites are developed and maintained to accommodate users and to protect the area. The number of campsites to be developed along a route will depend on need, but will be limited as necessary to maintain primitive conditions and to protect resource values. The type and number of facilities placed on a site will vary with the degree of protection needed. As a minimum, each site will have a tent space, a fire grill and a privy.

Hiking. Additional hiking trails will be developed and made available for hiking. The use of pack and saddle stock is prohibited on portages and hiking trails.

Snowmobiling. Public snowmobiling is prohibited in Algonquin Provincial Park, except on the Des Joachims-Minden hydro-line service road in Clyde Township.

Natural and Historic Zones. Special points of interest continue to be inventoried, mapped and the natural values or historical background researched. Protection measures applied include:

1. Trails are not normally developed; however, dead-end trails, constructed to a primitive standard, may be provided with the approval of the Superintendent to give access to selected observation points.
2. Campsites and developments, other than of an interpretive nature, are not permitted.
3. Publicity is kept to a reasonable minimum. If over-use becomes a threat, the need for controlling visitation by special permit is considered.

Recreational Occupancy and Use:

In the overall management of the interior, the control of visitors plays a very significant role in the managed use and the retention of the character of the area.

Interior Camping Permits. All visitors not on official business are required to have a valid permit in their possession when camping overnight in the interior. Apart from being a source of revenue, interior camping permits provide an opportunity to inform visitors of restrictions and prescribed practices and to obtain reliable statistics. The visitor contact made when the permit is issued provides an opportunity to educate visitors, especially those travelling in the interior for the first time.


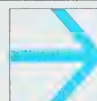
Interior camping permits are also used to cover car camping outside of the parkway corridor at locations such as Shall Lake, Basin Lake, Sec Lake, Lake Traverse, Achray, Kiosk, Brent and Rain Lake. This practice will be discontinued as these poorly serviced developments are replaced by perimeter facilities. In addition, fishermen staying in the corridor campgrounds before they are serviced in the spring are issued interior camping permits.

The interior camping fee for canoeists and other travellers of interior waters is levied on a per boat basis. Interior users who hike, car camp at perimeter access points, or travel by horse are charged on a per tent basis. Senior citizens are not charged a fee for interior camping. The interior camping permit also covers motor vehicle entry. Except during July and August, the fee is reduced to half the normal rate for a youth group whose members are residents of Canada and are sponsored by a non-profit, religious, charitable or other philanthropic organization or an educational organization participating in school approved outdoor education programs up to and including the Grade 13 level.

Limitation on Duration of Stay. To circumvent the problems of weekend use of choice sites and of shelters being erected and left standing, a regulation has been established which prohibits a person from leaving his tent, or any form of shelter he has erected, unattended for a period exceeding 48 hours without the written permission of the Superintendent. In addition, no one may camp under the authority of an interior camping permit on a site for more than 16 days in a year or in the Park for more than 28 days in a year.

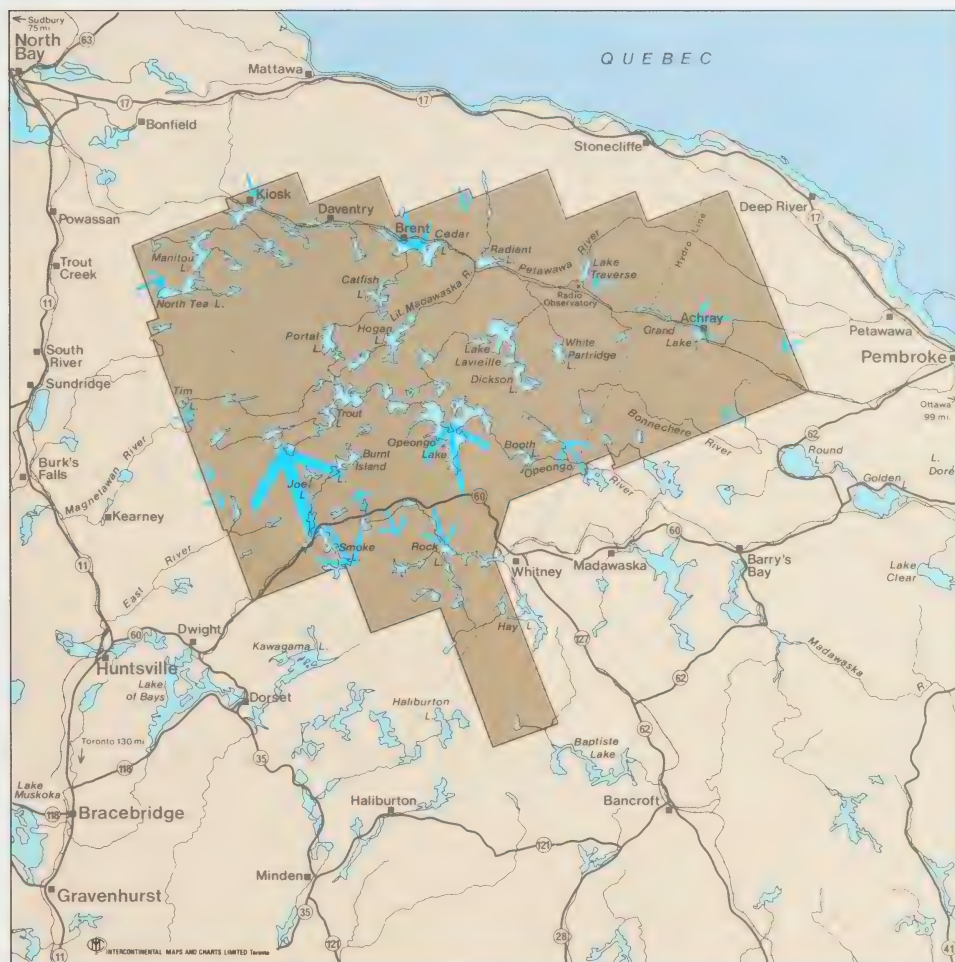
To assist in dispersing use and to combat problems of excessive use in areas near interior access points (Figure 9) which have been traditionally attractive particularly to novice canoeists, interior camping will be limited to a one night stay only. This policy will be in effect beginning in 1975 from the last Friday in June until the first Sunday in September, both days inclusive, and on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Victoria Day weekend in May. The policy will be applied on the following lakes in the parkway corridor where interior camping at designated sites is permitted: Faya Lake, Provoking Lake and Tanamakoon. It will also be enforced on the following interior lakes: Baby Joe Lake, Burnt Island Lake, Fawn Lake, Little Doe Lake, Little Joe Lake, Little Otterslide Lake, Joe Lake, Opeongo Lake (South Arm only including islands in narrows leading to the North Arm), Otterslide Lake, Tepee Lake and Tom Thomson Lake.

Use of major Interior Access Points

 Smallest use


Largest use

Scale: One inch equals 16 miles

 North




Access Point Quotas. Beginning in 1975 maximum daily quotas will be placed on the number of canoes and other watercraft which may enter the interior under the authority of an interior camping permit through a particular access point. Limits will not be placed at this time upon watercraft entering the interior through these access points on a day use basis. The following quotas have been based upon existing use patterns and the use capability of waters accessible from each access point. Quotas will be operated on a "first-come, first-served" basis and will be in effect annually from the last Friday in June until the first Sunday in September, both days inclusive, and on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Victoria Day weekend in May. At perimeter access points such as Kiosk, Shall Lake, Brent and Rain Lake, the quota includes presently existing car camping interior sites as well.

As the system of access points described in the perimeter concept comes into operation, adjustments in quotas will be made. Quotas have not been set on routes departing from the Park.

Size of Party. The sizes of parties using the Algonquin interior vary from one to as many as 75. The average size taken from the 1971 permit data was 11.62 for organized groups and 3.23 for unorganized groups. The organized groups stayed an average of 6.00 days and the unorganized groups 3.90 days. While large parties are relatively few in number, they can create substantial impact unless properly controlled. Beginning in 1975, large parties will be required to break up into camping groups of not more than 9 persons to reduce site impact and to preclude the need for additional tent clearings. Groups must be outfitted properly to make this possible. Commercial outfitters and children's camps will be asked to cooperate in outfitting their parties to meet this camping party size limitation. Parties larger than 9 will be permitted to travel and eat together.

Visitor Safety. Users accept a degree of risk when travelling in the interior. Expedient methods of communication and travel to obtain help in an emergency are often not available. Handout literature informs visitors of inherent dangers and instructs them in proper procedures to follow in obtaining assistance. There is provision to use aircraft when emergencies exist. Daily safety patrols by air are of limited value. Communication stations appear impractical at other than points occupied by Ministry personnel. The problems of user safety will receive further study.

<i>Parkway Corridor</i>	<i>Number of Canoes</i>
Oxtongue River	10
Canoe Lake	125
Smoke Lake	40
Source Lake	15
Canisbay Lake	5
Cache Lake	25
Madawaska River (near Rock Lake)	40
Sunday Creek	5
Opeongo Lake	180
Pinetree Lake	5
<i>Total</i>	<i>450</i>
Highland Hiking Trail	50 ¹

<i>Park Perimeter</i>	<i>Number of Canoes</i>
Kingscote Lake	10
Hay Lake	10
Galeairy Lake	10
Shall Lake	50
Aylen Lake	5
Basin Lake Road	10
Sec Lake	10
Achray-Lake Traverse Road	75
Big Bissett Lake	5
Wendigo Lake	15
North River	5
Brent	40
Brain Lake	10
Kiosk	25
Kawaymog Lake	30
Tim Lake	5
Magnetawan Lake	15
Rain Lake	15
Hollow River	5
<i>Total</i>	<i>350</i>

¹Overnight hikers per day.

Designation of Interior Campsites. In the past, no specific regulation existed to restrict interior users from camping on sites which were not formally developed. In some areas, such as on Burnt Island Lake, site density has reached the point where crowding effects are eroding the quality of user experience. Many sites have been developed which are not capable of sustaining the level of use required of interior campsites. Beginning in 1975, all interior camping will be restricted to designated sites along canoe routes and hiking trails. Interior camping will be phased out on Basin Lake and Stratton Lake as campgrounds are developed at these locations. Designated interior campsites will be developed and operated on the following waters in the parkway corridor: Bena Lake, Bluebell Lake, Bluff Lake, Bruce Lake, Ermine Lake, Faya Lake, Fen Lake, Hilly Lake, Kathlyn Lake, Lake St. Anthony, Little Island Lake, Little Rock Lake, Longspur Lake, Madawaska River, Maple Leaf Lake, Mikado Lake, Milton Lake, Mud Bay (Galeairy Lake), Namakootchie Lake, Olive Lake, Oxtongue River, Pinetree Lake, Provoking Lake, Shawandasee Lake, Sproule Lake, Sunday Lake and Tanamakoon. Site designation will be effected by rigidly installing a Ministry fire grill on the site. This will be done over a period of time starting with the most popular interior camping areas where the greatest need exists for appropriate patterns and levels of interior campsite development using physically suitable sites. Not only will site designation halt user development of interior campsites, it will allow sites to be closed for a number of reasons including rehabilitation, user dispersion, archaeological survey and fire hazard. Day users and persons travelling and stopping for a meal will be required to use designated sites if they want to have an open fire.

Tent Camps and Equipment Caching. The operation of permanent or semi-permanent camps is prohibited. When any member of a party occupying a site remains for 16 days, the camp must be moved. Sites are to be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at all times and restored as nearly as possible to a natural condition when they are vacated. All personal belongings, equipment and effects must be removed from the site and from the Park at the completion of the trip.

Boat Caching. Commencing in 1975, no person will be permitted to leave a boat unattended or permit a boat owned by him to be left unattended in Algonquin Park except at the Happy Isle Lake, Proulx Lake, Redrock Lake and Wright Lake portages on Opeongo Lake. All boats must be removed from the Park at the completion of each trip.

Firewood. Dead and down timber may be used to supply fuel needs in the interior. Firewood should be obtained away from campsites and well back from shorelines. The cutting of living trees and shrubs is prohibited.

Drinking Water. No special supplies of drinking water are available. Visitors must make their own provisions for potable water. Boiling or treatment with purification tablets is recommended after obtaining lake water well out from shore. No future provisions are planned for supplying drinking water in the interior.

Refuse Disposal. Users are required to carry out all non-burnable refuse. This program, initiated in 1969, has proven that this type of user assistance can work. The carry out program saves maintenance funds for other projects and produces aesthetic and sanitary benefits as well. When non-burnable, disposable food and beverage containers are prohibited in the interior, metal foil will still be allowed. Such disposable containers can be eliminated with the cooperation of manufacturers and outfitters as good substitutes for most items are now readily available. Depending upon the success of this regulation, it might be necessary to later consider a regulation which would make occupants of a site responsible for all litter on the site whether it was theirs or not. A litter bag and a brochure with an explanation of applicable rules are issued to all interior campers and day users. The interior camping permit number or, in the case of day visitors, the daily vehicle permit number, is noted by the issuer in ink on the litter bag. The numbers on filled garbage bags found abandoned in the interior are used to trace offending parties, who, in turn, are charged.

Interior travellers may deposit refuse at all access points. Refuse collected by Ministry crews is brought out of the interior for incineration or disposal in approved dumps.



Use of Firearms. It is unlawful to carry or use firearms in Algonquin Park. Firearms transported through Algonquin must be sealed upon entry and the seal removed when leaving the Park. Firearms may be carried, used and transported without a seal in the Townships of Clyde and Bruton by licensed hunters during the hunting seasons.

Motorized Equipment. No public use of motorized vehicles designed for use on snow, ice, land or water is permitted, except as authorized by the Superintendent in administrative, research, timber management and commercial trapping activities. In time, it may be necessary to prohibit the public use of chain saws and portable generators. Transistorized radios, electric shavers and other similar battery operated equipment are permitted.

Campsites:

Campsites will be planned, developed, maintained, rehabilitated, closed or otherwise regulated to offer optimum utilization while providing for protection of the resources and safety of the user. A system will be needed to provide users with interior campsite location information as an increasing number of sites will be hidden from travel routes. This can be accomplished through the use of accurate maps.

Development of Campsites

(A) Planning. A campsite development plan will be prepared. It should prescribe the optimum number of campsites to be distributed on an individual route or hiking trail. Capacity should be based on the impact of a maximum number of users acceptable on a route at any one time. Size and shape of the water body, type and amount of through traffic, ease of access, distance from entry point, camping capability and route linkage potential, as a minimum, will be used to determine capacity. No campsite is developed on an island or peninsula of less than one acre in size or less than 200 feet at the widest point, or within 500 feet of a portage terminus.

(B) Selection of Locations

1. Water Routes. Development and improvement of campsites is concentrated along primary routes, although use dispersion is enhanced by developments at more remote and out-of-sight locations. Users should be enticed into remote areas to effect a better overall utilization and reduce user conflict.

2. Hiking Trail Campsites. Hiking trail campsites are located to avoid conflict with water-oriented travellers; however, these sites should be adjacent to water or at least have a water supply available nearby.



3. Spacing. Campsites are spaced and located to provide as much audio and visual privacy as possible from other campsites in the area. In the future, it may be necessary to permit only tent colours which blend in with the natural surroundings. Campsites should not be less than 300 feet apart and in most cases this distance should exceed 500 feet or more. Where land form restricts or dictates the location of campsites within an area, careful planning is required.

4. Relationship to Entrance Points. Proximity of campsites to interior entrance points varies. Consideration is given in campsite development to an approximate single day's travel from entry points where canoeists will normally spend their first or last night in the interior. Each route is examined as an entity to provide sites for overnight camping or mid-day stops in relation to this factor. Route interaction is also considered.

5. Limits by Higher Priority Uses. Campsites are not constructed on or close enough to interfere with historic or archaeological sites, natural zones, or other exceptional features which could be damaged.

6. Size. Campsites should accommodate two average-sized tents, in keeping with the proposed camping party limit of 9 persons. Larger sites will be scheduled for closure and restoration.

7. Soil. Campsites should have soils which will withstand compaction, wind, water and mechanical erosion. They should have adequate depth to allow for facility placement and be able to sustain vegetation. Smooth rock outcroppings are preferred, but may lack a privy site, adequate shelter and cover. Where these limitations do not exist, campsites and campsite access are located on bedrock wherever possible.

8. Sanitation. Proper disposal of human waste is paramount. An interior privy is placed at each developed campsite. Adequate soils and natural screening for privies are essential.

9. Watercraft Landings. Safe and convenient landing areas adjacent to the site with sufficient room to beach watercraft are selected. Easily erodable and muck shorelines where erosion would be caused by, or accelerated by, foot traffic, are avoided. This may require that some existing landings be relocated.

10. Slope and Aspect. A gentle slope is often desirable to protect a campsite and to provide for adequate drainage. Slopes over 15 percent are avoided.

Aspect is considered in site planning, especially on poorly drained soils. To the user, southerly aspects tend to be warmer, drier and have fewer insects. Windy locations also have fewer insects, but tend to be cold in spring and fall.

11. Danger of Windfall Timber. Campsites are not to be located in over-mature timber or in shallow soil areas prone to windthrow. Senior staff must be consulted by work crews if more than four trees per campsite are proposed for cutting.

12. Difficulty of Maintenance. Sites which would be difficult and costly to maintain should be avoided when alternates are available.

13. Where choice exists, development should take place on the most attractive and convenient campsite locations. Mature stands of long-lived species, sites open to sun and wind as well as some sites in protected areas, all with pleasant shorelines, will provide ample attraction and reasonable choice. Stagnant pools and shallow muck bays should be avoided.

Campsite Construction

(A) Clearing Requirements.

1. New sites are cleared no more than necessary to provide adequate space for camping and general camp use, leaving nearly all tree regeneration and other ground cover.
2. A level space to accommodate two, 9-foot by 12-foot tents is cleared if suitable space is available. Well drained sites are selected or the drainage improved to preclude the need for user trenching.

(B) Fireproofing. Hazardous windfalls and other heavy fuels should be removed for a distance of 25 feet in all directions from the centre of the site. This does not include natural litter and duff removal.

A Ministry fire grill, provided to designate approved interior campsites, will also identify a permanent fireproof location for campfires. A ring of loose rocks will be placed around the grill. These may be shifted to permit cooking from either side or end depending upon wind direction. When fire grills have been installed on all sites, open campfires will be prohibited. In anchoring grills, the humus layer will be replaced with mineral soil for a minimum diameter of four feet. Standard grate height of eight inches should not be exceeded by more than two inches to conserve firewood.

The fire grill should be located near the waterfront to afford a pleasant view and setting while cooking, but be adequately protected from wind. It should be located to prevent the fire from damaging nearby vegetation.

(C) Sanitation. Interior privies are provided on all interior sites to prevent water and visual pollution. Privies are located in deep soil at least 100 feet from the shoreline. Increasing the distance from shore may provide improved soil depth and usually tends to decrease the danger from pollution.

No facilities for depositing refuse are provided in the interior.

(D) Tables. Unless it is found that tables are required to provide site protection by concentrating foot traffic and resultant soil compaction to a small area, tables will not be provided. Tables constructed by users will be dismantled for firewood.

(E) Other Campsite Facilities. Deviations from standard, prescribed campsite facilities or construction techniques will require submissions of detailed plans for the Superintendent's approval.

Development Program. Most existing campsites were established on the basis of convenience and attractiveness to the user, without thought to resistance to wear.

The nature of Algonquin soils makes interior campsites subject to excessive deterioration from overuse. Studies will be required to determine the amount of use each season an average site can sustain without permanent damage. Better visitor controls can be established when this data is combined with information on potential numbers of campsites based on shoreland capability and acceptable recreational quality standards. However, some popular sites will receive heavy use regardless of the number available.

Initial priority will be given to:

1. Improvement of existing sites to meet protection standards.
2. Establishment of new sites to replace sites lost through temporary or permanent closure.

3. Establishment of new sites to meet increased use demands. Site selection and construction with the above priorities will be planned annually according to urgency of needs.

A lakeshore classification project will be carried out to determine which shorelines can accommodate campsites and an overall capacity for each lake or subroute.

Maintenance Scheduling. Scheduling of two-man interior crews for the 21 patrol zones is determined according to intensity of use. Areas which receive low to moderate use are serviced every four or a maximum of six weeks. Moderate to heavy use areas are normally serviced once every two weeks during the peak season. Spring and fall checks and clean-up are also carried out on moderate to heavily used routes, particularly heavily fished in spring.

Areas kept clean include landings, portages, campsites, shorelines and the lake bottoms in shallow waters at campsites and landings. The interior patrol crews are supported by four, two-man litter crews during peak season who concentrate on problem areas. There are also three, two-man development crews.



Rehabilitation of Campsites. The ability of a campsite to withstand use is dependent upon: soil type, amount and nature of rock, type of ground vegetation, timber type, geographical location, type of shoreline, slope, exposure, capacity for campers at one time and attractiveness to other uses such as for noon lunch stops. Other factors which affect the way a campsite responds to use are: (1) frequency and timing of occupancy, (2) numbers present on the site at one time, (3) placement of improvements or facilities, and (4) conduct of users.

Sites which are carefully selected on a land capability basis are able to withstand more use than sites selected at random. Many existing sites, especially in heavy use areas, have been subject to deterioration. Some have deteriorated to a condition where site rehabilitation and closure will be necessary for a period of one to several years. Some may need to be closed permanently.

(A) **Criteria for Determining Rehabilitation Need.** Criteria for determining rehabilitation need vary from site to site but commonly include exposed roots, loss of vegetation, compaction of soils, absence of tree regeneration, dying off or extreme loss of tree vigour, and evidence of erosion. The presence of these conditions on heavily used sites indicates serious deterioration may occur if use continues without resting or rehabilitating the site.

(B) **Treatment Prescription.** Prescriptions vary with the nature of the campsite and usually involve soil treatment along with other supplementary treatments relating to the basic soil resource. The prescriptions are prepared by foresters.

(C) **Non-use Requirements.** The prescription should indicate the duration of non-use required. This may later be adjusted to fit the actual need. Rehabilitation work is usually prescribed in conjunction with non-use.

(D) **Inventory of Site Rehabilitation Needs.** An inventory of site rehabilitation needs will be carried out in 1974 and be repeated every five years. More frequent cursory examinations are conducted in conjunction with the annual maintenance program.

Closure of Campsites

(A) **Criteria for Determining Sites in Need of Closure.** The following types of campsites will be permanently closed to camping:

1. Islands and peninsulas less than one acre in size or having a widest dimension less than 200 feet.

2. Senior staff may permanently close a campsite if:

(a) Occupancy will cause permanent loss of vegetative cover, excessive loss of soil or cause water pollution.

(b.) The site has been burned over and vegetative cover cannot recover adequately to cope with continued camping.

(c.) Danger of windthrow timber or fire hazards exist which cannot be adequately corrected.

(d.) The site is located on or too near a special natural feature, historic or archaeological site to provide adequate protection.

(e.) Existing campsites are too close together and are conflicting in use.

(f.) The site is located on a narrow heavily travelled waterway or within 500 feet of the end of a portage where campers and travellers are likely to conflict. These sites may be retained as lunch sites only.

(B) **Signs on Closed Campsites.** Two standard signs will be used to post closed campsites: one for temporary closure and one for permanent closure. Each will relate the need for such action. No other signs should be used on campsites without the prior approval of the Superintendent.

(C) **Campsite Inventory.** An inventory of all interior campsites is maintained on standard campsite description forms. Campsite locations are coded on accompanying 1:50,000 topographic maps and are grouped by patrol area.

A general updating is carried out at the end of each season. Planned closures for the following year are deleted at this time to allow advance public notice of the closures.

Winter Campsites. Winter camping is permitted under the same provisions as exist for summer use.

No Adirondack or other type of permanent or semi-permanent shelters are permitted. Winter campsites may be provided in the shelter of dense conifer cover when sufficient need exists.

Protection of Historic, Archaeological, Natural and Scenic Sites:

Many of Algonquin's special features could be damaged, destroyed or stolen. Each site is treated, dependent upon the circumstances, to avoid damage. Sites subject to damage are not generally publicized, camping may be curtailed or other controls imposed to restrict public access.

Maps:

The 3 miles to 1 inch scale of the old Algonquin map did not serve travellers well. An updated 2 miles to 1 inch scale map is now being sold. Campsite locations have been noted on the new map to direct campers to the more remote and hidden campsites. This should aid in distributing use and reducing the conflicts of crowding.



Timber Management

Standard Ministry forest management planning techniques are applied to the commercial forest area open to timber harvest in recreation/utilization zones in Algonquin Park. Special harvesting and road construction regulations have been developed to protect Park values and recreational opportunities. A Crown agency is being established to carry out all harvesting and silvicultural operations prescribed by the Ministry. Special silvicultural systems have been developed to maintain the managed forests in the Park in a productive and attractive condition.

Algonquin Forestry Authority:

The Authority will function as a Crown Corporation, harvesting forest products and supplying them to the manufacturing facilities currently dependent upon supplies from the Park. The Authority will carry out all road construction, silvicultural activities and cutting of trees prescribed by the Ministry. The role of this agency will therefore be operational in nature with a commercial service orientation.

Given the volume of forest products it may harvest annually and the social and environmental constraints which the Minister will determine, the Authority will operate as efficiently and effectively as possible to produce its products at minimum cost for sale to manufacturing centres.

Licenses held by a total of twenty companies will be cancelled and replaced by a volume agreement issued by the Ministry to the Algonquin Forestry Authority. As an initial target, the average level of harvesting of 15 to 17 million cubic feet of wood each year will not be exceeded during the period of plan review from 1975 to 1979. This consists primarily of sawlogs and veneer. With improved markets, additional quantities of low grade wood can be produced through fuller utilization. The average level of harvesting is lower than the sustainable yield on the portion of the Algonquin forest zoned as harvesting/recreation.

The Board of Directors of the Authority will determine appropriate strategies by which the agency may meet its objectives. It will also prescribe operational practices and procedures in administrative areas not prescribed by the Ministry. The Board will supervise the affairs of the Authority to assure its efficiency and effectiveness and advise the Minister on new policies or objectives which it feels may warrant adoption.

The Authority will conduct logging operations through the use of local contractors and will pay normal stumpage, forest protection and forest management charges. It will carry out silvicultural and special project work as directed by the Ministry.



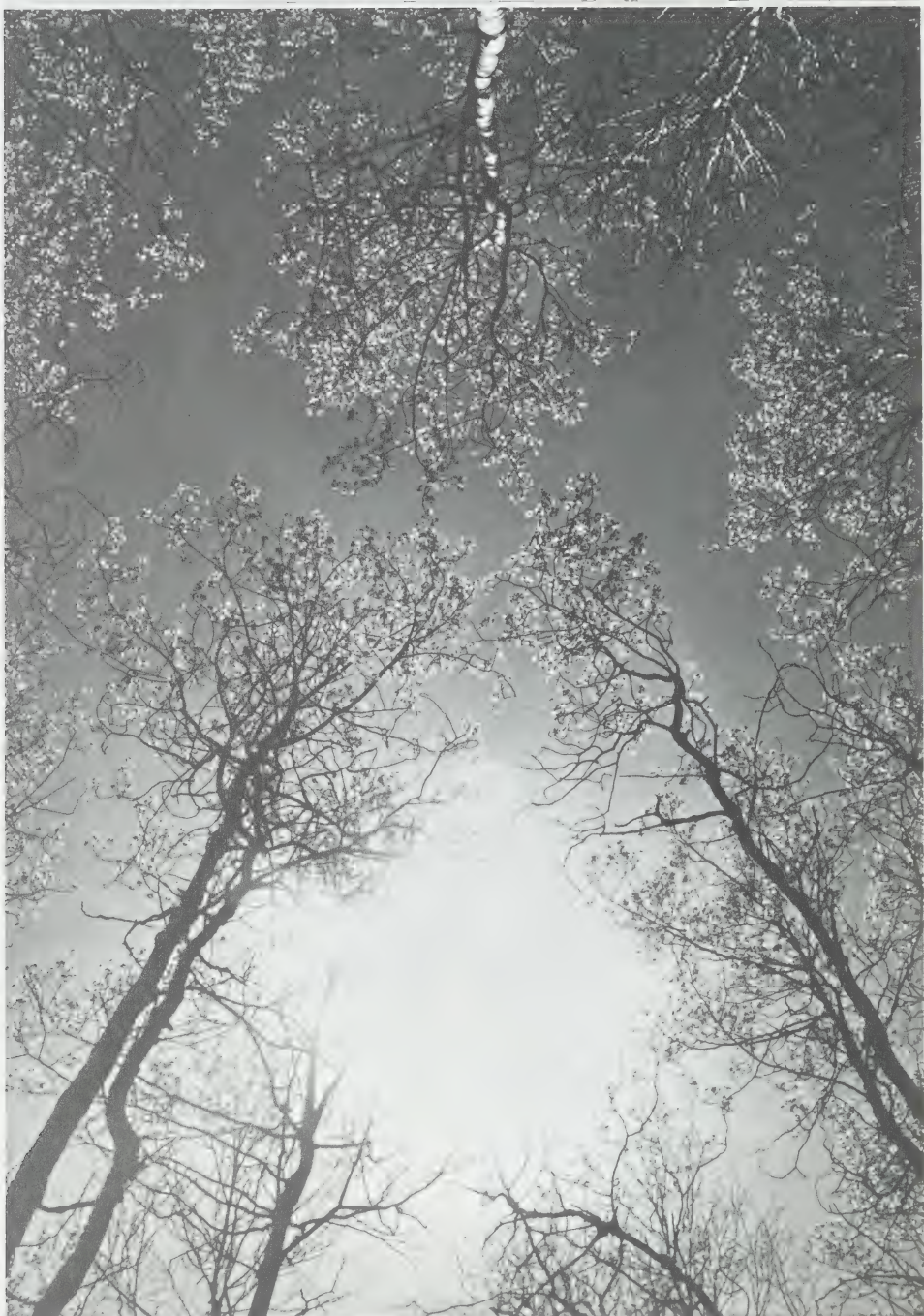
The following policies, prescribed by the Ministry, will guide the Algonquin Forestry Authority. They provide an understanding of the management activities of the Ministry insofar as the activities of the Authority will affect these objectives. Briefly stated, this involves the use of reservations, controls on location, standard and degree of development of roads and the treatment of the forest to maintain it in a productive and attractive condition.

Silvicultural Systems:

Silvicultural techniques will vary with the nature and condition of the forest to achieve the objectives of management.

Any silvicultural system is intended to obtain regeneration of a desired species at a suitable time and to maintain stocking levels which will allow this regeneration to develop satisfactorily.

Thus, depending on the species to be regenerated, its silvical characteristics regarding seeding habits, site requirements and competitive ability, the basic silvicultural system chosen will be applied in such a way that a regime of cleanings, thinnings, improvement cuttings and/or other treatments may be prescribed. While such treatments may occur coincidentally with logging operations, the Ministry will determine what supplementary silvicultural operations are to be conducted. Principles from the Ministry manual, "Design Guidelines for Forest Management" will be followed for all operations and will control the size and shape of clear cut areas, construction and maintenance of roads and landings, and all other factors affecting forest aesthetics.



Silvicultural systems will be applied to the various working groups as follows:

(a) *Tolerant Hardwood Working Group*

(sugar maple, yellow birch, beech and occasional associated species)

The selection system or the uniform shelterwood system will be used, according to standardized Ministry policies and procedures for this working group.

(b) *White Birch and Poplar Working Groups*

(i) When these species are growing on suitable sites, the clear cutting system will be used. Supplementary regeneration will probably not be necessary.

(ii) When these species are growing on unsuitable sites, the clear cutting system will also be used; however, this will require supplementary regeneration work which in most cases will involve planting with more suitable species. Such work must be undertaken at the time of the harvest cut. In any situation where white pine is to be established as part of the new stand, a sufficient overstory should be left to discourage weevil infestation. If it is decided that a large area of this working group is to be logged, the cutting area and/or modification of the clear cutting will be controlled and designed to fit the landscape from an aesthetic standpoint.

(c) *White Pine Working Group*

Reference will be made to the Ministry's silvicultural guide for this working group. The uniform shelterwood system is preferred and will be used where applicable. Areas presently managed under strip shelterwood will continue under this system until they are completely harvested.

(i) Under uniform shelterwood, the first cut will be a preparatory one in which high quality trees are favoured as a seed source and low quality trees are removed.

(ii) The second cut will be a seeding cut in which high quality seed trees are favoured and the stand is opened up to establish regeneration by removing fifty percent of the volume. This cut must be made to coincide with a good seed year. Site preparation may be necessary at this time.

(iii) The third and subsequent cuts will be made to promote suitable development of the regeneration. The final cut will remove the remainder of the overstory when the danger of severe weevil attack is not critical.

(d) *Red Pine Working Group*

The seed tree system will be used, supplemented by planting when necessary. Approximately 8 to 15 windfirm red pine or white pine trees per acre of good quality will be left as seed sources. A successful natural seeding can result only if a seed year occurs before the competing vegetative growth is well developed. The seed trees may be harvested when regeneration is established.

(e) *Jack Pine Working Group*

The clear cutting system will be used. Supplementary measures, such as burning, scarification, seeding or planting will be carried out as required after cutting. On sites that are more suitable for species other than jack pine and balsam fir, it may be desirable to establish and manage them by their appropriate silvicultural system. For example, the uniform shelterwood system may be used to establish white pine.

(f) *Balsam Fir Working Group*

The selection system will be used on suitable sites. In most cases, this system will be applied by the use of a diameter limit. The diameter limit to be used will depend on site condition and stand structure. The intent will be not to cut so heavily that the stand is invaded by undesirable tree species. To avoid this, it may be necessary to mark for retention some trees above the diameter limit in order to maintain a reasonable stocking level. On certain suitable sites, conversion to other species may be advantageous, for instance clear cutting in patches to establish red pine.

(g) *Spruce Working Group*

The selection system or the uniform shelterwood system will be used. When stand conversion is required, clearcutting in patches may be used. The choice will depend upon management objectives, site and stand conditions.

(h) *Hemlock Working Group*

The selection or group selection system will be used to create satisfactory openings for regeneration. The choice of system will depend on site conditions and stand structure. In some cases, site preparation will be necessary to create a suitable seedbed. If a site is more suitable from the viewpoint of timber production for a species other than the one growing on it, it may be desirable to apply an alternative silvicultural system to establish the more suitable species.

Intermediate cuttings and other silvicultural operations such as cleanings, thinnings, improvement cuttings, site preparation, planting and seeding will be carried out by the Algonquin Forestry Authority in circumstances as the Ministry requires. Such work may be undertaken for purely silvicultural reasons or to maintain vegetation in a suitable condition in recreational development areas, including campgrounds, picnic areas and interior campsites.



Forest Management, Harvesting and Road Policies:

Logging, road construction and all other forest operations shall be conducted in the places and within the times designated by the Ministry. The location and standards for roads, landings, work camps and other structures will be prescribed or authorized by the Ministry.

The methods and techniques of operating shall also be subject to the approval of the Ministry. This involves the following aspects of operations:

- (a) job layout including pattern of roads, skid trails and landings.
 - (b) kind and size of equipment used.
- These matters are ultimately the responsibility of the Ministry in its interest in protecting site quality, in carrying on effective control over all stands of commercially grown timber, and in maintaining appropriate aesthetic and noise standards.

Policies

(A) *Timber Management Area.* Commercial timber management and harvesting will be restricted in Algonquin Park to areas designated by the Ministry within recreation/utilization zones.

(B) *Marking of Timber.* No timber may be cut in the Park unless it is marked or otherwise designated by an officer of the Ministry.

(C) *Waters, Portages, Public Roads, Railway, Boundary.* Except for recreation or aesthetic purposes, no marking will be done within 100 feet of any body of water, public road¹ and railway rights-of-way, within 200 feet of portages or within 500 feet of the Algonquin Park boundary. Marking and cutting within view of public travel routes will not detract from the basic appearance of the forest in these areas. Instead, vegetation management will maintain or restore an undisturbed appearance in areas which are viewed by the recreating public. All slash within 400 feet of publicly used waters, public road and railway rights-of-way and portages must be lopped to within three feet of the ground.

(D) *Islands and Natural, Historic, Primitive, Access, Recreation and Development Zones.* No commercial timber cutting or road building is permitted. In cases where there is no alternative in the parkway corridor recreation zone, it may be necessary to upgrade old timber haul roads to reserve crossing standards for use on a seasonal basis from the beginning of November to the following mid-April while harvest cutting only is occurring. At the beginning of the Park operating season, the vegetative appearance of these roads will be restored in all areas intersecting recreational travel routes.

(E) *Deer Yarding Areas.* No cutting or road construction will be permitted unless authorized by the Ministry and in line with the prescriptions of the deer management and timber management plan for the Park.

(F) *Forest Operations.* Between the last Saturday in June and Labour Day, both dates inclusive, road construction and cutting is prohibited within one and one-half miles of canoe routes and recreational trails. This distance may be reduced to one mile where mufflers on power saws, trucks, skidders and other powered equipment effectively reduce noise to levels imperceptible to users of nearby canoe routes and recreational trails.

During the same period, hauling from and through the same areas is restricted to 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daylight saving time Monday to Friday inclusive, statutory holidays exclusive. There are no hauling restrictions on, and north of, the Sand Lake Road between the Sand Lake Gate and the Petawawa River bridge at Lake Traverse as well as on all roads north of the Petawawa River and the chain of lakes connecting Lake Traverse to Kioshkokwi Lake. This will be reviewed when the proposed Stratton Lake Campground comes into operation because it will be accessible via the Sand Lake Road.

As harvesting becomes more mechanized, special consideration will be given to limitations on the operation of large and more complex machinery. New types of logging equipment proposed for use in Algonquin must meet sound-level standards and have the Superintendent's prior approval.

The abandonment of vehicles and equipment, littering or improper garbage disposal along roads or in other work areas by contractors of the Authority will be prohibited.

The rafting of logs across lakes and the driving of rivers is prohibited in the Park. The salvage of old logs from Algonquin waters is not permitted. Park waters may not be used as log storage areas. Existing storage areas will be phased out as quickly as possible.

While primary consideration is given in timber harvesting to limiting the impact on other resources and uses, the duration of logging is also limited to a practical minimum with a maximum possible period scheduled between cuts. Regeneration is to be completed as soon as possible following logging. This will allow areas involved to be closed to further entry in a minimum period of time following harvest, in line with the strategy for roads crossing canoe routes. To ensure that all vehicular road use in these areas will terminate upon completion of operations, regeneration and crossing rehabilitation, road maintenance will cease and effective road blocks will be provided. Upon re-entry for harvesting purposes, formerly used road, landing and crossing locations should be used as much as possible. Long range timber production planning will view this as a permanent, but partially intermittently used road system.

The Authority will also be responsible for the re-establishment of the tree cover on borrow pits, landings and other recent man-made openings which will not be used again in a few years.

¹This policy applies also to the Bissett-Radiant and Otterpaw Roads.



(G) *Camps, Other Structures and Improvements.* Logging camps will be located out of sight and more than one-half mile from the shore of canoeable lakes and streams or from portages and hiking trails. Only temporary portable work camps will be permitted. Additional sawmills or other forest industry manufacturing operations will be prohibited. Existing permanent forest industry facilities should be phased out when possible. Camp layout, location and sanitary facilities must have the Superintendent's advance approval. Buildings, bridges and other structures and logging improvements will be removed after use and the sites cleaned up by the Authority.

(H) *Vegetation Management for Recreational Purposes.* Timber stand improvement is prohibited and the cutting of live trees is limited in primitive zones and in reserved areas to that essential for public safety and for development of portages, trails, campsites and administrative sites. In natural, historic and recreation zones, stand improvement and cutting will be permitted in cases where such activities are consistent with the purpose and authorized public use of the zone. Hand planting or seeding and cover manipulation, using native species may be carried out on interior sites which require rehabilitation after heavy use or burning.

Interior crews may not cut timber in maintenance activities or for improvement projects closer than 300 feet from campsites, portages and the shores of canoeable bodies of water. The cutting of living cedar trees for these purposes is prohibited.

(I) *Herbicides.* The use of herbicides by the Authority in road maintenance and silvicultural treatments will be in accordance with previously described policies and only in situations prescribed by the Ministry.

(J) *Road Construction.* No roads may be constructed within 400 feet of waters, portages, public road and railway rights-of-way and the Park boundary, except in accordance with the later described strategy for roads crossing canoe routes in the interior. Roads or clearings will not be constructed within any reserve unless they are authorized in writing by the Superintendent and announced publicly by the Ministry before the ensuing canoeing season. The construction of roads or the cutting of rights-of-way by the Authority may not begin without the approval of the Superintendent.

All roads will be developed in accordance with the permanent forest management road system strategy. This will be structured within the period of master plan review between 1975 and 1979 and will attempt to resolve problems associated with many existing roads that are not optimally located for recreational, timber management, harvesting or forest product distribution purposes. Within this strategy, roads other than those forming part of the approved permanent road system should be closed within two years following harvest. Sections of these roads crossing portages, trails and navigable or publicly used streams and rivers should be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation of stream crossings will normally require bank stabilization involving the planting of native trees and shrubs. A natural vegetative appearance will be returned to stream and portage crossing sites through such planting and by spreading appropriate matching types of ground litter such as leaves, branches and mosses.

<i>Type of Road</i>	<i>Maximum Right-of-way Clearing</i>
Access Road	45 feet
Internal Haul Road	30 feet
Roads crossing timber reserves within 400 feet of portages, waters, public road and railway rights-of-way and the Park boundary.	22 feet

Roads between 400 feet and 1500 feet of canoe routes have a maximum width right-of-way of 30 feet. The above right-of-way widths are maximum and these maximum widths are to be used only where absolutely necessary. All merchantable timber must be cut and salvaged from rights-of-way prior to bulldozing. All slash on access roads and crossings through all timber reserves must be lopped to within three feet of the ground. Road crossings of canoeable waters will be by bridge, with a minimum approach fill and clearance to preclude the need for portaging.

(K) *Transportation of Forest Products.* The transportation of unmanufactured forest products from areas outside Algonquin to manufacturing facilities now established within the Park will be permitted only until such facilities are phased out. Transportation of unmanufactured forest products from areas outside the Park to manufacturing facilities outside via Algonquin roads is permitted only over public roads in the Park.



The Algonquin Park Advisory Committee recommended as a special case, where no alternative existed, the use of a road through part of Bruton Township by the Martin Lumber Company as long as the road is also used to haul timber from inside the Park. This matter is to be reviewed by the Ministry annually.

(L) *Strategy for Roads Crossing Canoe Routes.* The conflict between low intensity forms of recreational use and the management and harvesting of forest products in the interior of Algonquin Park is well known. For other than those who are viciously dissatisfied in knowing that logging can or does occur in an area, the conflict can be minimized to a significant degree by limiting the "sights and sounds" of commercial wood production encountered by interior travellers. Roads are the most significant element in this conflict.

The strategy selected in dealing with roads crossing canoe routes balances user needs and Park values against forest management and harvesting needs. To accomplish this, the entire canoe route network was subjected to an individual linkage component analysis. The measurement of all parameters involved was largely impossible. Even from the recreationist's standpoint, the ecological implications of additional road distance could not be measured against the relative aesthetic advantage of two crossing alternatives. The strategy does, however, rationalize roads as they relate to the entire interior waterway travel network and establishes Park-wide priorities which consider not only old crossings but also all possible future crossings.

Four classes of crossings of portages and constrictions in navigable waterways were established and applied to the entire potential interior waterway travel network. The system will be applied to hiking or horseback trails developed in recreation/utilization zones. The classes are:

No Crossing. Portage or waterway crossing at this location should not be considered.

Temporary Winter Crossing. Only a temporary portage or waterway crossing should be considered. Road built to harvest forest products and to conduct silvicultural operations at the time of cutting only. Road access for later tending operations is not considered. Crossing rehabilitation must be completed by April 20th and carried out between Park operating seasons. Work on the crossing should not start before October 15th.

Temporary Crossing. Only a temporary portage or waterway crossing should be considered. Road built to harvest forest products over an entire block using one silvicultural system or at intervals by another system. Road access for silvicultural operations at other than the time(s) of harvest cutting should not be considered. Crossing rehabilitation and crossing development work as per the temporary winter crossing class dates and at the end of the harvest cut and between periodic harvest cuts.

Permanent Crossing. Permanent portage or waterway crossing at this location for harvesting and management purposes may be considered.

When a block of timber is bounded on all sides by canoe routes and is part of the designated timber production area within recreation/utilization zones, the class of crossing having the minimum negative recreational impact will, within practical limits, be selected. Where two alternative crossings of similar classification exist, the Superintendent will determine which will have the lesser recreational impact.

The crossing classification will exert an important influence, along with the distribution of timber and markets, upon the location and extent of the permanent interior road system designed for the Park. Basically, stream and portage crossings by timber roads are limited to the most practical minimum, recognizing timber product needs and the varying degrees of impact on recreational use of different crossings. As many of these crossings as possible will be rehabilitated after use to minimize road impact on recreational use of the interior and to ensure site protection and hasten the return of a vegetative appearance. Unless no other alternative exists, no new crossings of major canoe routes will be allowed. Trading of one crossing for another will not be permitted.

Timber Research:

The existing research area at Swan Lake will continue to be maintained and other areas in the Park may be used: (a) to study the silvical characteristics of native tree species; (b) to conduct experiments and collect data as an aid to forest management; (c) to demonstrate various silvicultural and other management methods for the purpose of staff training and for other groups; (d) to develop, evaluate and demonstrate various operating methods and techniques to serve as a guide for those engaged in, or concerned with forest operations.

The Algonquin Forestry Authority may be asked from time to time to provide men and equipment to carry out prescribed operations under the supervision of the staff of the Swan Lake Forest Research Station. Timber harvested from such operations will be made available to the Authority.



Fish and Wildlife Management

The management of the fish and wildlife resources of the interior has a number of special requirements. These include provision to accelerate completion of fisheries surveys of lakes and streams, terrestrial animal habitat surveys, periodic inventories, and collection of other basic data on all wildlife populations. Opportunities may be provided for users to observe wildlife, including judicious habitat improvement in recreation and recreation/utilization zones. Management effort is directed to preserve and enhance endangered and rare species.¹ Efforts in fisheries management in recreation and recreation/utilization zones attempt to provide the maximum feasible benefits and enjoyment to fishermen. This involves high quality native trout species and natural conditions, yet recognizes the importance of stocking and access limitations as management tools. Animal control may not be carried out except for the safety of visitors and to protect facilities or other values. Whenever possible, nuisance bears and beaver are moved to distant places in the Park. Introductions of unwanted indigenous or exotic fish species should be largely eliminated through the implementation of a live bait fish ban. Exotic trout species introductions, including rainbow and splake, and food fish introductions are only permitted where essential for on-going Ministry research programs in recreation and recreation/utilization zones. Greater restrictions of sports fish take are planned in primitive zones. Hunting and trapping will continue to be permitted in the Townships of Bruton and Clyde. Trapping is also permitted on the eastern side of the Park. Collections for scientific purposes may be permitted in the recreation/utilization zones, but only with the prior approval of the Park Superintendent. Deer management may include protection of shelter along with range improvement in wintering areas near the Park boundary in recreation/utilization zones. Provision is also made for the protection of species such as ospreys, herring gulls, loons and great blue herons, which are vulnerable during the nesting season. This can be accomplished through restrictions on access, establishment of buffer zones and retention of roosting and potential nest trees near nesting sites.

Wildlife Viewing:

Algonquin is heavily forested; its wildlife mostly shy and found largely as scattered individuals. The Park cannot, therefore, provide wildlife viewing opportunities comparable to those in Serengeti, Yellowstone or even Banff, all of which have many more open vistas than Algonquin and/or large concentrated populations of ungulates.

Notwithstanding this difficulty, it is possible to view wildlife in Algonquin and there are measures which can be taken to improve the visitor's chances. In considering possible measures, it is important to keep in mind the educational role of Algonquin and to distinguish acceptable from unacceptable measures in relation to this role. For example, since Algonquin is a natural environment park, it would not be acceptable to build a zoo exhibiting wildlife species. This would ensure that visitors saw the whole range of Park wildlife, but it would run counter to basic principles.

It would also be unacceptable to provide an opportunity to see free ranging members of a wildlife species if the provision of that opportunity resulted in unnatural behaviour of the animals, such as bears at an open dump.

Two techniques are now used to increase the public's opportunities to perceive wildlife. One is the imitation of wolf howls to elicit responses from wild wolves. Wolf howling expeditions can be carried out on a large scale during August and in fall and winter for smaller groups. In the last 5 years, there have been 20 large scale public wolf howls with a 50 percent success rate and an average attendance of almost 1,000 per expedition. The other technique is the use of tape recordings to lure birds into view on conducted hikes. This technique works well during late June and early July.

One of the best times to see wildlife, in particular otter and beaver, is in April, even along the parkway. With growing off season use in the Park, many more people will see wildlife at this time.

The winter months are not particularly good for seeing wildlife directly, but are good for seeing tracks. People derive at least a degree of pleasure from seeing and identifying tracks and can combine this activity with a wolf howling expedition during a winter visit.

¹Endangered and rare are defined in terms of both the Park range and the total range of the species in question.



Wildlife Control:

The control of wildlife involves bears primarily and, to a limited degree, beaver or the occasional investigation of a report of an animal behaving abnormally. Beaver control simply involves the removal of dams or the use of perforated pipe in dams which are plugging culverts or otherwise threatening to flood or wash out roads or the railway.

The problem of bear-human interaction has been growing recently, attracting considerable attention. Efforts in the past focused primarily upon the nuisance bear; either by shooting or, when possible, removing him to little used areas. Warning signs and hand-out literature have been employed to draw attention to the problem.

This approach has been revised to recognize the bear's priority right of occupancy as a guiding principle, with reasonable consideration being given visitor safety and property. Within this general guideline, the following strategy has been developed:

(1) Garbage

(a) Interior: Continuation of the carry-out program, implementation of the can and bottle ban and, if necessary, making garbage collection on interior sites the responsibility of the current site occupant, should bring this problem under greater control. Information provided to interior travellers stresses the need and the means of storing food packs out of the reach of bears at campsites.

(b) Parkway and Perimeter Developments: Bear-proof garbage facilities are being provided in all campgrounds, day use and other locations where garbage pick-up is provided.

(c) Disposal Sites: All garbage from and brought to the corridor is deposited in a bear-proof enclosure, incinerated and the residual wastes buried in an adjacent landfill. Similar, small scale facilities will be installed to handle garbage in the northern and eastern sections of the Park. All open dumps will be eliminated in three to four years.

(2) Information and Education

Publications about bears have been developed for the corridor and the interior. Through these and staff contacts, visitors are made aware of potential problems, means of avoiding them and the bear's priority right of occupancy.

(3) Control Program

Problem animals in the interior must be shot unless there is road access to the site. If possible, problem animals are drugged in developed areas of the Park and moved by culvert trap to little used sections of the interior. Problem animals in the corridor are tagged and released in Clyde Township. The third time an individual bear appears as a problem animal, he is disposed of via a drug overdose.

(4) Research

Data are collected on each animal for Fish and Wildlife Research Branch staff who are involved with a detailed study of the black bear in Ontario.

Trapping:

Trapping has long been permitted on five registered traplines in Bruton and Clyde Townships. This traditional use by local residents has been permitted in these townships since they were added to the Park in 1961. It will continue so long as the trappers are from the local communities.

Since 1958, trapping has also been permitted on 19 zones in the eastern and central part of the Park. The purpose of trapping here is to provide income for Indians of the Golden Lake Band. The program also removes beaver along a portion of the Canadian National Railway right-of-way so that dams do not wash out and endanger the railway. These zones presently cover parts of twelve townships. They will be shifted eastward, out of the heavily used central lakes region, to the nine most easterly townships. This block will then be subdivided into 18 new zones which will be more accessible and closer to Golden Lake.

All species of Park furbearers, with the exception of timber wolves, may be trapped. Beaver quotas are set for each zone. Lynx and bobcat may exist in Algonquin, but have not yet been recorded. Trapping of these species will also be prohibited.

Hunting:

Public hunting is permitted in the Townships of Clyde and Bruton. Although this traditional use by local residents will continue as long as most hunters are from local communities, it does not suggest that public hunting would be permitted elsewhere in Algonquin Park. With the exception that timber wolves may not be taken, game seasons and regulations in adjacent areas outside the Park apply here except during the deer and moose season.

During this period, a special hunt camp system exists involving 83 hunt camp sites, 32 in Clyde and 51 in Bruton. Tents, portable camps or trailers may be placed on these sites. They are covered by an annual permit. If the permit is not renewed, it is made available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis on a specified date. The number of hunters is limited to 12 per party and all camps must be removed within 96 hours after the season closes. No other hunters are allowed into the area and authorized parties must hunt from their assigned sites.





During the deer and moose season there are also two areas available for day hunters who must leave the Park each night. This involves a two-mile wide strip along the hydro line in Clyde Township and a one-mile wide zone bordering Kingscote Lake. These day hunting areas will be retained as they are, but the number of hunt camp sites will be reduced to about 25 in Clyde and 40 in Bruton to bring hunting pressure in line with productive capacity. This can be accomplished in time by eliminating non-renewed sites and restricting sites to one per hunting party. Sites will also be redistributed along new, permanent forest management roads, to eliminate current problems of road access and resultant unauthorized hunting party relocations which have upset the original site distribution. With the full development of the canoe route system in these townships, all gates will be locked throughout the year with the exception of the hydro line and Kingscote Lake roads. Keys to the gates will be issued to site permittees during the deer and moose season.

Hunt camp sites must be restored to their natural condition when vacated for the year. All personal belongings, effects and garbage are to be removed. Hunters have not observed this regulation closely in the past with the result that tent pole frames, tables, garbage pits and old ice boxes are found on many sites. Enforcement will be intensified during the 1974 season.

Deer Management:

White-tailed deer contribute to recreational experiences in three different ways: wildlife viewing, the satisfaction people have in knowing that deer are present, and hunting outside of Algonquin of animals that winter or summer in the Park.

During the past few years, populations of deer in the Park have been declining. Although the reasons are not entirely known, it is believed that changes in forest habitat are largely responsible. Reversal of this change would require frequent severe treatment by logging or fire to produce clearings in the forest, providing a continuous supply of browse. At the same time, conifer cover would have to be retained or increased in deer wintering areas to provide shelter and areas of reduced snow depth.

Although this management approach would likely produce more deer, it is inconsistent with the objectives set for Algonquin Park. It is obvious that the severe forest treatments necessary to produce clearings would be at odds with the provision of low intensity recreational experiences. In addition, the retention of all conifer stands could influence the economic viability of forest operations.

The forest habitat in Algonquin Park will result from processes which are associated with approved recreational and forest harvesting activities. Thus, the deer population will depend on the carrying capacity of a forest habitat which results from activities aimed at achieving the Park's main objectives.

Deer management in the Park must also be consistent with the relative priority of the three recreational experiences listed previously as compared with other recreation priorities.

1. Viewing deer is not a high priority item on the list of recreational opportunities to be provided in the interior. Viewing deer along the parkway would be desirable provided the management required does not conflict with primary Park values.

2. A comparison of deer hunting success between areas adjacent to the Park and other areas of Southern Ontario would suggest that investments in deer management would be better made outside the Park.

3. The satisfaction people get from knowing deer are in the Park is difficult, if not impossible, to assess.

In summary, deer management will encourage deer populations consistent with carrying capacity. To implement this strategy, conifer shelter, which is important to deer in cold weather when food supplies are low, will be retained in 100 square miles of winter yarding area. Conifers which do not contribute significantly to providing winter shelter may be cut for use by the forest industry. No restrictions are made on the cutting of hardwoods in these areas, provided that damage to the residual conifers is kept to a minimum. Hardwood cutting is actually encouraged as it results in increased supplies of winter deer food in the form of young hardwood twigs. Whenever possible within the limits of the silvicultural system being applied and timber production needs, cutting by the Algonquin Forestry Authority will be conducted in a manner which produces the maximum benefit to deer.

Priority in deer range management and associated retention of cover will be concentrated in the seven major winter yarding areas in the Park. Within these areas, priority will be given to those yards which contribute most significantly to huntable deer populations.



Fisheries Management:

Fishing has long been one of the basic recreational attractions of the Park. Today, in the interior, it is second only to canoeing as a primary recreational activity.

The present fisheries program concentrates on research and angler limitations. Research programs have been concerned with most native and introduced sports fish species. In particular, the lake trout and brook trout programs have provided an important understanding of these species in Park waters, valuable management strategies, and very significant fishing opportunities. Angler limitations associated with means of access, seasons and most recently, angling methods, have assisted in preserving the quality of the fishery. Management efforts beyond these restrictions and limited stocking have only recently been initiated and will be expanded.

The fishing experience in the Algonquin interior has two major dimensions. The first relates to the wilderness character of Park waterways and required means of travel and living in such an area, while the second relates to the quality of the fishing. Significantly, fishermen regard the evidence of logging in the interior in much the same light as do canoeists. Recent surveys of interior fishermen suggest that an important aspect of fishing in the Park is associated with the character of the landscape and working their way back once or twice a year into some good fishing.

Since the retention of the wilderness character of Park waterways is dealt with in another section, fisheries management is concerned basically with fishing quality. The objective is to provide guidance for fisheries management planning and relate to the quality of experience provided to each type of fisherman. The Scarborough father camping at Mew Lake should be able to take his son to a small corridor lake and catch a brook trout as he did when he was a boy in Sundridge; or the fireman from Belleville might pack into La Muir once a year and catch lake trout the way his father might have forty years ago by travelling over a wagon road to an inaccessible lake in the Bancroft country.

Algonquin plays a special role by providing excellent fishing for brook trout and lake trout during the open water period, while surrounding areas play a comparable part in winter. This requires that Algonquin waters be managed for quality, open water angling for these native species in line with the experience and expectations of the range of angler types attracted to the Park.

Such a goal could be variously interpreted. Fisheries management must basically complement zoning; for example, stocking is not an acceptable practice in primitive zones. Quality angling suggests both landscape character and type of fishing provided. Opeongo Lake, for instance, with the new motor boat restrictions, will be one of the few areas where motorized lake trout trolling is permitted. To provide angling quality better than areas outside the Park will require restrictions which bring angling pressure in line with the productive capacity of the lake or off-setting management efforts such as stocking with two-year-old lake trout. Native sports fish species refers to brook trout and lake trout. Other salmonid fishing opportunities would result only from Ministry research programs approved in line with research policy. Established exotic sports fish populations, such as smallmouth bass, will be allowed to follow a natural course in waters where they are established. Species such as walleye, which have expanded their range in Algonquin, should be treated in a similar manner and be impeded from further range extension where possible.

A variety of anglers of varying experience and expectations are attracted to the Park. Individual anglers may engage in a variety of types of angling from spring, to summer and fall.

Angler expectations and, generally, fishing quality follow a basic pattern. The further back one goes, the better the fishing is, since fewer anglers work to reach such areas and fishing pressures are lighter. Management strategies can therefore dictate lower acceptable fishing pressures and higher angling quality in such areas.

Level of stocking, with the exception of stocking associated with research programs, has been below levels for areas outside the Park. The annual stocking level will be increased to 150,000 yearling brook trout, 15,000 two-year-old brook trout, 50,000 yearling lake trout and 20,000 two-year-old lake trout. The possibility of using stock of Algonquin parental origin will be considered. Accessibility of planted fish does not constrain fishermen significantly. In fact, planting appears to influence fishing patterns to the degree that alternatively accessible natural populations may be overlooked.

A fisheries management plan will be completed by newly appointed fisheries staff. Improved funding will accelerate fisheries survey work. Survey emphasis will shift from concentrating on easily accessible waters that do not have native populations, to include the major native brook trout and lake trout fisheries. Survey data and the findings of Park research programs will provide guidance that will optimize planting output. The relative ease of catching planted brook trout in individual lakes will also be considered.



Motor boat restrictions will place greater pressure on corridor lakes and leasehold lakes elsewhere in the Park that contain lake trout. In lakes such as Cache where planted lake trout are appearing in the catch in significant numbers, increased stocking levels may assist in maintaining fishing quality. In larger lakes where the survival rate of planted yearling lake trout is lower, two-year-old stock will be used.

The use of live bait has been prohibited to avoid further human influence on fish species distribution and related negative effects on fishing. Another fishery policy change involves fly fishing in the eastern half of Bruton Township. Since this angling method is not well suited to fishing conditions in that area, the current limitation of fly fishing only has been lifted.

The new bait and motor boat regulations will encourage more primitive angling means. Paddling against and landing a large lake trout on light tackle after a long trip to a seldom visited lake makes the effort and planning involved worthwhile. Emphasis should be placed in information programs on new techniques such as jigging with wet flies in spring for lake trout or trolling from a sail-equipped canoe. An increasing effort throughout the season may involve still fishing for lake trout with frozen bait fish.

Soil and Mineral Management

Algonquin soils are largely fragile and irreversible deterioration must be prevented in high intensity use areas and through timber harvesting activities. While preventative measures are used, soil protection methods must be compatible with maintaining wilderness conditions especially in primitive and natural zones.

Recreation site plans must employ basic soils data as these are necessary for proper selection, maintenance and rehabilitation of campsites. Data should indicate the durability of a given site, specific hazards such as windthrow and erosion that are soil-related, locations for privies and other facilities, the number of potential tent spaces, site development costs, site rotation program, and other prescriptions for site development, rehabilitation and maintenance. Soil data from soil series mapping and the Ontario Land Inventory shoreland recreational capability mapping will be supplemented by field investigation. Logging roads are located and constructed to minimize erosion. Winter logging is encouraged and scarification is prohibited where soils are shallow.

Native materials including sand, gravel and rock may not be used for purposes outside the Park. All pits are authorized by the Superintendent and are confined to areas in recreation/utilization zones where they will not interact with existing or potential recreational use or Park values. Maximum pit size should not exceed 100,000 square feet. Pit operation and restoration is according to the controls established for operations on private land in designated areas of Southern Ontario under the Pits and Quarries Control Act.

Watershed Management

The management objectives for Algonquin waters are twofold. First, the preservation of the high quality of interior waters through wise use is paramount. Increased management and educational activities are required to protect waters from deterioration as public use grows. Water quality is also protected by adequate sanitation facilities and programs, and proper timber management practices. Secondly, the quantity and timing of flows is altered where practicable to satisfy the needs and objectives of each watershed storage program; however, adverse effects on recreational, biotic and cultural resources or users is not permitted.

Watershed management has a number of special requirements. These include the prohibition of any practice which could cause deterioration in the volume or quality of water in the Park. Sources of pollution and the tapping of Park waters for external uses are controlled and limited. Public and private facilities are surveyed periodically and unsatisfactory conditions rectified. Design and construction used in necessary lakeshore and stream bank restoration projects and other erosion control projects must be compatible with the natural character of the area in question.

Water Quality Management Guidelines:

1. *Privies.* Since human wastes pose the greatest single threat to interior waters, privies are located in deep soils at least 100 feet from the water's edge.
2. *Garbage Disposal.* Interior users are required to burn all garbage and to carry out non-burnable refuse. The garbage problem will diminish as education, enforcement and regulations become more effective.
3. *Watershed Restoration.* Measures such as bank stabilization are used only where necessary to protect soils and water quality and preserve aesthetics. Rock, logs and other natural materials must be used.
4. *Drinking Water.* Visitors are discouraged from drinking untreated surface water. Boiling water or the use of water purification tablets is prescribed.
5. *Effects of Use.* Visitor capacity in relation to water quality varies. Some lakes are further advanced geologically, while certain lakes demonstrate the impact of visitor use more than others. Studies are required to determine the degree of development a lake can withstand without change in water quality.
6. *Dams.* Low dams may be constructed or reconstructed for recreational purposes only. The water level created by these dams will normally not be greater than the highest former high water mark. All dams are designed to complement resource values as much as possible.



Water Management Plan:

A water management plan is being developed to rationalize and maximize the potential for canoeing, fishing and historical preservation. While canoeing can be expanded by raising water levels, the related impact on living and historical resources must be evaluated. The construction of new dams will be limited to recreation, access and recreation/utilization zones. In other zones, existing dams will only be maintained or replaced as each case warrants.

Recent studies of lake level control, operational procedures, dam conditions and requirements form the basis for detailed water management planning. This involves 85 dams in various states of repair.

Dams were usually built in the past to hold the water at something near the normal high water mark for the lake. The channel was usually deepened to allow greater drawdown or to allow for the same flood flows within a narrower effective width. It follows then that complete removal of dams would allow most lakes to drop below their natural level.

For gated structures, the natural pattern of drawdown and storage is followed, not only to make water available for downstream use, but as a measure of flood control for protection of property and values both inside and outside the Park. Shoreline erosion is guarded against. Rule curves guide the operation of each gated dam.

Whenever possible, weir dams are constructed or reconstructed. These have a stepped overflow surface to allow a high discharge at high river or lake stages and to maintain a low flow during all but the most severe drought.

On all lakes controlled by gated dams, water levels are recorded weekly. Such records are essential in effective water management planning and allow special attention to be paid to biological impacts such as ensuring that loon nests are not flooded out by fluctuations in summer water levels.

Of the 85 dams in the Park, 24 are in good repair, 9 need repairs, 10 derelict dams are required and 42 are not. Five to seven years are needed to complete the replacement of derelict dams and to improve other dams in need of repair. Some dams, that are derelict and holding water, could fail and require major repairs or reconstruction. Ecological surveys and cost/benefit assessment are carried out in association with each project.

The Ministry is responsible for the operation, maintenance and construction of all dams. Maximum drawdowns and the timing of drawdown associated with all gated structures is limited to an essential minimum.

Activities Management

Activities management in the interior may be subdivided into a number of subject areas: information and interpretation, protection, special land uses, transportation, structures and signs.

Information and Interpretation

Algonquin Park has been embroiled in a number of controversies recently. Lack of knowledge and misunderstanding about Algonquin, will, in varying degrees, affect the many visitors who come to the Park.

There are few people who have an adequate perspective of the entire Park and who are fully knowledgeable of its management, public benefits, and its present and potential problems. The demands are great for a continuing information and interpretation program that will keep the public alert to the broad Algonquin situation.

The aims of the interior information and interpretation program are: (a) to obtain optimum and reasonably balanced low intensity recreational use of the Algonquin interior with maximum benefits returned to users from its available resources; (b) to gain user cooperation by identifying users' responsibilities, making them understand available benefits, and instilling an appreciation of the area's history, management, opportunities, problems and unique attractions; and (c) to meet these requirements via an intensive information and interpretive program to reach all user and interest groups. This will involve:

1. Keeping the public acquainted with important Algonquin interior benefits and attractions. Values involve recreational solitude, aesthetic enjoyment, research and educational benefits. This program should also involve the identification of historic sites, special interest features, plants and animals that are present and can be adequately protected.
2. Conducting field contacts to point out travel routes that are lightly used to help reduce crowding.
3. Informing visitors of the rationale underlying restrictions, rules and regulations.
4. Informing interior visitors of integrated use considerations associated with various resources and activities.
5. Improving visitor understanding and cooperation to preclude damage by vandalism, water pollution, fire and campsite abuse.
6. Informing and educating other agencies, groups and individuals having responsibilities and special interests in Algonquin resources, programs and needs.

There are a number of information and interpretation problems associated with the Algonquin interior:

1. Lack of public knowledge and understanding of Algonquin, its recreational resources and potential activities, management and administration, and the Ministry's timber management program in the Park.
2. Failure of visitors to extinguish campfires.
3. Need for better results from litter carry-out program.
4. Communication of the need for elimination of mechanical transportation means and road access into parts of the interior.
5. Campers cutting living trees and boughs.
6. Preparing the public for new control measures to protect the area and its resources in the face of increasing use pressures.
7. Existing facilities being below planned standards.
8. Communication of basic canoeing and camping skills and wilderness-user ethics.

The interpretive staff are responsible for the various productions needed to keep the public adequately informed. A range of interpretive means and media are employed.

At permit issuing stations, information centres and access points, use is made of permits, information officers, exhibits, slide-tape programs, maps and publications to communicate the basic messages described previously. Examples of production efforts to date include the "garbage" slide-tape program which is shown at most permit issuing stations to as many visitors as possible, exhibits at the canoe centres, the "Watch It" program of litter bags, pamphlets, access point signs and litter disposal huts, and the canoe safety officer programs at Canoe Lake and Opeongo Lake.

Internal communications are needed to keep employees informed of policies, problems and proposed solutions and activities. Concessionnaires, youth camps, leaseholder associations, outfitters, lodge owners and other individuals and groups interested in the Park should be kept informed of all phases of management.

Small exhibit centres are being considered at several access points. These would be developed to allow relocation as access point changes are made according to the perimeter concept. The themes and possible displays that may be developed are:

Location	Theme
Kiosk Rain Lake	Amable du Fond River The Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway
Crotch Lake	Opeongo River and brook trout research
Grand Lake	Tom Thomson, pine forests and early Indian habitation
Lake Traverse Cedar Lake	Petawawa River The Canadian Northern Railway and the Deacon Fault.

Protection

The discussion of protection involves fire protection, the insect and disease protection of plants and law enforcement.

Fire Protection:

The fire protection objective is to prevent man-caused wild fires through education and enforcement and to control forest fires using all available means. In primitive zones and watershed natural zones, fires of natural origin may be permitted to burn to achieve a natural succession, provided they do not threaten to damage recreational or timber values. Re-establishment of vegetative cover often takes many years and the shallow Algonquin soils are susceptible to irreparable damage by wild fire; hence wild fire along canoe routes cannot be tolerated. Islands and small peninsulas that support campsites are valuable, yet are vulnerable to fire and demand special fire prevention considerations.

To achieve the fire protection objective, fire prevention is stressed in contacts with interior users. Maximum protection is provided to recreational values in all fire suppression and prevention activities. All managed interior campsites must be fireproofed. Prescribed burning is only carried out in vegetation management according to previously described policies.

Restoration work needed to hasten establishment of vegetative cover and to prevent or reduce subsequent damage to watershed, recreation and wildlife resources is completed as soon as possible after the fire is out. Natural plant succession may be supplemented by seeding or planting native species. Burn rehabilitation plans must be approved by the Superintendent.

Forest Fire Control Planning. The following fire control plan outline is designed to protect Park resources and visitors from forest fires. More detailed long and short range plans are prepared by district fire control staff.

(A) **Legislation.** Statutory authority to protect Park resources from forest fires is provided under the Forest Fires Protection Act. This Act contains legislation to declare restricted fire and travel zones during critical fire situations and to prohibit smoking while walking or working in forested areas.

(B) **Fire Prevention.** Controlled access to the Park provides an ideal fire prevention opportunity through staff contact with almost all visitors. Prime fire causes are unextinguished campfires, smoking materials and the railway. Normally 15 to 20 percent of fires are started by lightning. Visitor use of fire may be restricted as the situation dictates.



(C) *Fire Detection.* Fires are detected using aircraft and observers working from Bonnechere and Muskoka Airports. Two lookout towers are manned from mid-June to September to provide communication points for visitors and employees. Tower detection coverage is coordinated with air detection patrols and routine flying by Ministry aircraft.

(D) *Communications.* Fire control communications are by telex and telephone at the district office and by radio and telephone to suboffices in the Park. Portable mobile radio equipment is used for communications in the field.

(E) *Equipment.* Fire suppression and line camp equipment are maintained at the district office and suboffices. Reserve equipment is available through the region.

(F) *Fire Weather Forecasting.* Fire weather forecasting stations are located at Whitney and Stonecliffe. Daily weather forecasts and forecasted fire weather index ratings are supplied by the main office in Toronto. The information is used for predicting fire occurrence and for prevention, detection and suppression planning.

(G) *Fire Suppression.* Trained supervisors and unit fire crews are based at Whitney and Stonecliffe during the fire season. Back-up supervisors and auxiliary crews are available. Ministry staff and resources are used in the initial attack on all fires because of access limitations and the absence of outside resources.

An otter water bombing aircraft is based at Smoke Lake for the summer. Turbo beaver water bombers and tracker retardant bombers are available.

The Algonquin region fire centre at Huntsville is operational daily during the fire season and can provide additional service and suppression resources.

Insect and Disease Protection of Plants:

The objectives of this program are to reduce damage and loss caused by insects and disease where there is evidence that lack of control will result in unacceptable losses of recreational or timber resources or cause unacceptable damage to resources on adjacent land or in adjacent zones. Control projects are not normally undertaken except to protect vegetation in intensive recreational development areas, to prevent unacceptable losses of timber resources or the creation of severe fire hazards in recreation/utilization zones. In these cases, and where the success of control action taken is assured or expected, control action may involve preventing, retarding, suppressing or eradicating incipient, potential or emergency outbreaks. No suppression action is taken until a biological, cost-benefit and adverse-effect evaluation has been completed.

Site restoration following a disease or insect outbreak may be carried out in timber production areas. In recreational areas, restoration is limited to development areas such as campgrounds for fire and aesthetic purposes.

Law Enforcement:

The management of Algonquin's recreational resources is largely dependent upon user controls. This involves many types of regulations designed to protect the physical resource and the quality of recreational experience. These regulations have been variously enacted. Additional regulatory controls are needed.

The basic problem with user controls is one of level of enforcement. Thirteen Ministry enforcement staff are needed, six in the corridor and seven in the interior, to provide an adequate level of service with only essential Ontario Provincial Police support. This level of staffing has now been reached and will allow emphasis to be placed on education, information and safety as well as direct enforcement.

Policy. Aggressive action is taken to discover, investigate and report all infractions involving all resources and persons in the Park. Offenders are brought to account through proper legal procedures. Action is also initiated to prevent or eliminate infractions through adequate administration, supervision, education and publicity.

Investigation. Enforcement staff may take bail bond and issue a summons on the spot. They, along with the Superintendent, have all the power of a member of the Ontario Provincial Police force in Algonquin Park.

Every employee encounters visitors breaking one type of rule or another. Some infractions are of lesser importance and require only a warning, unless the action is repeated. There are, however, certain infractions which are more important and require action. These include: cutting trees, painting rocks, damaging facilities, cutting portages or trails, littering, leaving fires burning, landing a float aircraft at other than a licensed airbase and operating a vehicle on other than a public road without authority.

Investigation of all infractions must be prompt and establish facts according to standardized procedures set down for the Park.





Unattended Boats. Beginning in 1975, no one may leave a boat unattended or permit a boat owned by him to be left unattended in the Park except at the Happy Isle Lake, Proulx Lake, Redrock Lake and Wright Lake portages on Opeongo Lake. Ministry personnel search for unattended watercraft and traditional caching locations especially are kept under close surveillance. Boats left legally unattended overnight at the above-noted locations must be covered by a valid interior camping permit. This means that when more than one boat is brought into the Park an additional nightly fee is payable for each boat in excess of one. These regulations do not apply to leaving boats, including canoes, unattended for a portion of one day. Boats may be left unattended overnight in organized campgrounds and on leased and patented lands.

When an unattended boat is discovered and there is good reason for suspecting an infraction of the regulations, the owner is charged and required to bring the boat out of the Park. If the owner cannot be determined and the boat is not worth salvaging, it is destroyed after a two-week waiting period. Boats of reasonably good quality are brought out and, after a two-week waiting period, added to the Ministry's inventory.

Special Land Uses

There will be no further disposition of land and all alienated lands will be acquired, according to previously defined policies. Upon acquisition, all evidence of structures is removed and the site quickly returned to a vegetated state using native materials and species. Other land uses will be permitted which are required and are consistent with the purpose and standards established for each type of zone. The Superintendent must approve the location of any new structures, roads, hydro and telephone distribution lines. The latter are underground wherever possible.

Authority exists to prohibit or regulate and control notices, signs, sign-boards and other advertising devices. These are normally prohibited except when, in the opinion of the Superintendent, support is provided to Park objectives.

Military exercises are discouraged because they are contrary to the use principles upon which Algonquin's existence is based. In addition, the conditions which must be applied in the Park limit the effectiveness of such exercises.

Transportation

The basic transportation policy is that except on designated roads, water and air routes, motorized or mechanical transport is prohibited. This prohibition does not apply in emergencies or in the control and management of the Park. Permission to travel on other than public roads is by permit only. By disallowing all means of mechanized locomotion except on public roads and thus obliging visitors to rely on muscle power or wind as a means of transportation, the Park's carrying capacity is increased and there is a better chance of relating visitors to the Algonquin environment and values. In addition, certain protection is afforded biotic and physical resources.

Roads:

Roads will not be constructed in primitive, natural and historic zones. Existing roads will be phased out of primitive zones and, where possible, in natural and historic zones. No new roads should be constructed in reserved areas, except those temporary roads absolutely required for timber harvest and approved by the Superintendent as not having serious impact on recreational, natural and historic values. A minimum of roads, preferably temporary, are permitted for timber harvest and management in recreation/utilization zones. Roads at entry points are located for control of motorized vehicles and later to provide adequate barriers when the roads are permanently closed. Road crossings of the boundary are kept to an absolute minimum and new crossings avoided. Roads are designed and located to protect soil and natural values and to minimize adverse effects on recreational resources. Waterway and portage crossings by roads are limited to a minimum essential for timber harvesting activities and are subject to other resource protection considerations.

Trails and Portages:

Foot trails and portages are constructed and maintained to allow reasonably safe foot travel, to protect wilderness values and to minimize soil erosion and damage to streams and wildlife habitat. The use of pack or riding stock is prohibited on hiking trails and portages and restricted to areas outside of primitive, natural and historic zones. Hiking trails take advantage of scenic lookouts, vistas, historic sites and other special features, while avoiding contact with primary canoe route lakes and portages.

Hiking trail development should progress at a rate which will meet use needs. A periodic review of use trends and needs for hiking trails is planned.

The existing system of portages will be maintained. Portages to inaccessible lakes may be provided to permit expansion and distribution of use. Such expansion will be limited in primitive, natural and historic zones, where canoe route development could be incompatible with other values and uses.

Dock construction is limited to areas without good natural landings. Canoe rests are developed at one-quarter mile intervals on portages over one-half mile in length. Native materials are used in canoe rest and dock construction.



Transportation Means:

Transportation means and improvements are managed to protect and maintain the primitive character of the Park.

Timber Management. In areas closed to the public for such purposes, mechanical transport and motorized equipment are permitted in timber management and harvesting activities and for hydro line and right-of-way maintenance.

Roads Closed to Public Travel. The public use of Park administrative roads, forest management and timber haul roads, the Des Joachims-Minden hydro line road (except in Clyde Township), portages and trails for motorized or mechanical transport, is prohibited.

Amphibious Craft and Houseboats. The use, anchoring and transportation of amphibious craft and watercraft designed for, or used as, floating living quarters is prohibited.

Aircraft and Hovercraft. Aircraft landings are limited to float landings at the Ministry airbases located at Smoke Lake and Kioshkowi Lake. Hovercraft are considered to be aircraft and their use is banned.

A regulation is being considered to prohibit aircraft travel below 4,000 feet above sea level, except for emergencies, safety, rescue and for Ministry or Ministry-approved business. This would not apply in the North Bay-Killaloe and the Muskoka-Killaloe air corridors which traverse the Park. Such a policy would protect wilderness values and eliminate air dropping of supplies to interior travellers.

Horsedrawn Carts. The use of horsedrawn carts to haul boats, fishermen, camping and fishing equipment is now restricted to the road joining Stuart's Spur and White Partridge Lake. Each request for this type of access to White Partridge Lake is covered by a letter of authority. This use will be phased out when the Stratton Lake Campground is opened and the Sand Lake Road is closed beyond this point.

Bicycles. Visitors may ride bicycles on public roadways and on designated trails.

Motor Boats and Water Skiing. Beginning in 1975, the use of motor boats will be phased out except on Opeongo Lake and twenty-six leasehold lakes. Water skiing will then be permitted on the lakes indicated in the table on page 81.

Policy changes will be considered if they constitute greater restrictions and are agreeable to those maintaining recreational properties on the lake in question. Failing this, the use of motor boats will be phased out on all lakes but Opeongo Lake as the rights to the last recreational property on each lake expire or are acquired. At that time or before, motor size will be restricted to 10 h.p. or less on Opeongo Lake.

The use of motor boats in administrative and Ministry research programs is discouraged, especially in the interior. Motor boats may not be used in non-Ministry research programs.

Employees of the Algonquin Forestry Authority involved in cruising, road location and other operations, may be authorized to use motor boats when they are the only reasonable means of travel available.

Children's camps and lodges will be permitted to use motor boats in essential support of their operation after the public use of motor boats is phased out on the lakes involved. The Ministry will reserve the right to control the type and conditions under which such watercraft can be used.

Lodges may rent motor boats until use is phased out on the lake on which they are situated. This will normally correspond with the expiry of the last cottage lease on that lake.

The Ministry may use motor boats to provide public services which are deemed essential and compatible with the purpose of the Park, other forms of recreational use and public needs. Such services may be operated by the Ministry, or on a concession basis and may include tour boat, water taxi or rafting services.

The needs, locations and most appropriate means of providing such services will be determined through public opinion survey during the master plan review period.

Snowmobiles. The public use of snowmobiles is prohibited except along the hydro line right-of-way service road in Clyde Township. This policy exception will be subject to further examination during the period of master plan review.

Public snowmobiling will be prohibited on those parts of Highways 60 and 630 situated within the Park. Leaseholders and landowners may, upon request, be permitted by letter of authority to travel by snowmobile once for one day each winter, or for a greater number of one-day periods as snow conditions require, to remove snow from their cottage roofs or to conduct other essential maintenance functions. They may instead request that authority be granted to someone to perform this service for them.

A letter of authority granting permission to use a snowmobile throughout the winter may be issued upon request to year-round Park residents for whom snowmobile travel is the only form of mechanized transportation available.

Persons involved in logging, cruising and other forest industry operations and in the maintenance of children's camps and lodges, may be authorized to use snowmobiles in situations where they are the only reasonable means of travel available to accomplish essential work programs.

Trappers are authorized to use snowmobiles on, or to gain access to, their zones.

The use of snowmobiles in administrative and research programs of the Ministry is discouraged whenever possible, especially in public use areas. Snowmobiles may not be used in research programs which are not conducted for the Ministry.

Motor Boat Size

Lake Name	10 h.p. or Less	Unlimited	Water Skiing Permitted
Bonita Lake		x	
Cache Lake		x	x
Canoe Lake		x	x
Cauchon Lake	x		
Cauliflower Lake	x		
Cedar Lake		x	x
Galeairy Lake		x	
Grand Lake	x		
Joe Lake	x		
Kingscote Lake		x	x
Kioshkokwi Lake		x	x
Lake of Two Rivers		x	x
Lake Traverse	x		
Little Cauchon Lake		x	
Little Joe Lake	x		
North Tea Lake	x		
Opeongo Lake		x	
Radiant Lake	x		
Rain Lake	x		
Rock Lake		x	x
Smoke Lake		x	x
Source Lake		x	x
Tanamakoon		x	
Tea Lake		x	x
Tepee Lake	x		
Whitefish Lake		x	x
Wilkes Lake	x		



Mechanically Assisted Interior Transport. The overland transportation of any watercraft, camping gear or other supplies and equipment by mechanical means, including the use of wheels, rollers, horse-drawn carts or other devices is not desirable. These devices frequently break down and are abandoned. They create ruts in wet areas on portages, encourage visitors to bring greater volumes of supplies, thus increasing litter, and represent an unnecessary tie with civilization. The need for such devices will diminish greatly with the phasing out of motor boats. Beginning in 1975, mechanically assisted interior transport will be prohibited, with the exception of the later phasing out of horse-drawn carts noted previously.

Structures

Structures and improvements are incompatible with a wilderness environment. They will be limited to those essential to recreational management and proper use of the interior. This objective will be achieved through a variety of means including the prohibition of new transmission lines, pipelines, communication towers or highways anywhere in the Park. No new establishments will be permitted except those required by the Ministry for Park operations and research. Establishments include airports, private lodges, youth camps and structures held under licenses of occupation and permits for private, commercial and industrial purposes. Removal of structures and site restoration should occur as quickly as possible after expiration of the covering lease, special use permit or upon acquisition. Temporary logging, project or research camps must be located to minimize conflict with public use. Only native materials are used in trail bridges. Similar criteria apply where corduroying in wet areas is required. Additional sawmills and other industrial facilities will be prohibited and existing developments phased out. Small dams may be constructed and existing dams maintained, taking into consideration water levels essential for canoe travel, impact on biota and aesthetics. No permanent or semi-permanent camps will be permitted in conjunction with timber harvest in recreation/utilization zones. The General Manager of the Forestry Authority will maintain a schedule to show planned dates for abandonment, clean up and rehabilitation of existing and planned camps and bridges. The Authority will also eliminate and rehabilitate the present backlog of abandoned camps, sawmill structures and bridges. This will be approved by the Superintendent to ensure that Park values are protected.

Ministry Structures:

Lookout Towers. Aerial fire detection has replaced the former tower system. With the exception of two towers that will be retained, all towers and living quarters, docks and other associated structures have been or will be removed and the sites rehabilitated.

Radio Communications. Communications between interior work areas and the nearest headquarters, with the exception of the two fire towers, will be by portable battery-powered radio units. Radio towers and fixed battery-powered or thermal-powered units will not be installed.

Cabins as Crew and Research Quarters. No structures should be retained or constructed for these purposes in the interior. Older ranger cabins may only be retained for their historical value. Tents are used in the field to house interior and research staff and to store project materials.

Minor structures needed to house instruments and any other structures needed in connection with research projects may be approved by the Superintendent, but should be designed and located to have a minimum impact on the primitive character of the area.

First Aid. Interior crews carry first aid equipment. Most crews may, in time, carry portable radios and be able to summon emergency assistance.

Permanent Shelters for Users. Adirondack or other types of shelters will not be constructed for use by recreational visitors on hiking trails or elsewhere in the Algonquin interior.

Electric Power Generator Facilities. The Ministry will neither construct nor allow the construction or use of power generating facilities except in logging camps, inholdings, and on construction projects.

Dams. Small dams needed to maintain water levels adequate for canoe travel or the preservation of existing shorelines may be provided and serviced. Dam replacement and construction requires approval of the Superintendent. If adequate justification for retaining a dam is lacking, no effort is made to interfere with natural disintegration or to provide for replacement. A special design and specifications are prepared for each dam project. As much wood and as little concrete as possible should be used.

Bridges. Bridges constructed of native materials are provided only on trails and portages where visitors can not safely use stepping stones of footlogs.

Stream crossings for logging roads should use bridges or trestles with a minimum of fill. Restoration must be carried out after the road is closed.

Docks. Docks at portage termini and campsites will not be constructed on shorelines where there are safe and suitable natural landings. Docks, including float plane docks for garbage pick-up, are a decided adverse intrusion and are limited to essential locations.

Toilets on Heavily Used Portages. Standard interior toilets may be placed at intervals on heavily used portages, and where parties frequently stop for lunch on lightly used portages.

Signs

The basic policy is to erect a minimum number of signs. In the interior, signs and posters are limited to those essential for the safety of users, protection of the wilderness resource and identification of points of interest. Signs must be compatible with the wilderness setting, but give consideration to legibility and appearance. Posters will be replaced in time with rustic wooden signs. Sign locations are chosen to fit the natural setting whenever possible.

Small wayside exhibit centres are being considered at interior entrance points. These will inform visitors of use requirements, restrictions, good conduct practices and routes. The "carry out" program exhibit panel, which has been erected at a number of access points, will be retained until it, or its message is incorporated in a more comprehensive exhibit.

Research

A basic Park objective is to conduct research resulting in the most timely establishment of needed guidelines for Algonquin's resources and uses. Application of these guidelines should, in turn, improve resource utilization and increase visitor benefits. *Recreation Research Program*. The following high priority problems have been identified for research effort:

1. Effective vegetation and wildlife management require data on the development, composition and relationships of biotic communities. An inventory of present plant and animal communities with their historical development would provide certain data from which changes could be projected under different management strategies.
2. The problem of rehabilitating and stabilizing campsites, trails and portages requires solution. Soils are thin and vegetation is susceptible to user damage. Rehabilitation techniques should be developed and applied.
3. Improved management techniques for the interior require knowledge of social and physical capacities. Overuse quickly degrades the physical resource and the quality of experience. Planning for use distribution requires knowledge of unit area social and physical capabilities.
4. The question of forest harvesting versus wilderness recreation is a live and controversial one. Continuing demands for additional "wilderness" and the continued economic well being of the communities surrounding the Park ensure that this debate will be on-going. This topic requires continuing government study to provide for changing public needs and values.

External Management Considerations

Efforts are made, especially in the buffer zone and beyond, to coordinate all management activities outside the Park with the goals of wilderness management. In some cases this will involve specific adjustments in external resource management to the direct benefit of the Algonquin interior.

The rather large number of available access points complicates visitor management, but as they are scattered around the perimeter of the Park, they provide an opportunity for dispersing visitors.

Several outfitters are primarily dependent upon the Park. Complete package outfitting or nearly any item of food or equipment may be obtained for canoe and fishing trips. Fishing guides are available for hire. The cooperation of outfitters will be sought in furthering wise use of the interior. Limits and controls over outfitting operations are being initiated and will probably be required to a greater degree in the future. All outfitters supplying services in the Park will be required to enter into agreements with the Ministry by 1975.



Area Plans

Perimeter Recreation System

The perimeter concept evolved directly from the Provisional Master Plan for Algonquin Park which was released in 1968. In the course of public and government examination of the plan, concern was expressed over the program of proposed long range development. This called for new development areas in Algonquin which would assist in meeting the growing Park demand by opening up some of the more inaccessible areas. The concern over the proposed development pattern centred around the character and qualities of Algonquin Park. Development fingers, edging in from the boundaries, appeared to pose a threat to the very essence of the Algonquin character—vast, inaccessible and wild. In view of this, Algonquin's provincial role was assessed and the decision was made to re-examine the development program and to investigate alternative locations for external development which might be termed perimeter areas.

The following concept is an examination of possible perimeter developments and their implications for Algonquin Park. The perspective is on the future, at a time when the development of new areas within the Park must cease or its qualities will be lost.

Definition

A perimeter park and recreation system can be defined as a regional mosaic of services and facilities whose user elements are highly interdependent on a daily basis in terms of needs, communications and commutation. These perimeter areas are related to one nucleus, in this instance Algonquin Park, and are separated from the nucleus by time and space relationships. This separation also places the perimeter areas in uniquely different regional settings; each with its special recreational values and attractions (Figure 10). Within this definition perimeter areas include private parks, public recreation parks, wild and scenic rivers, scenic road access corridors, outfitting areas, tourist centres, additions to Algonquin Park, and areas providing access to the Park interior.

Parks. Any type of park, whether it be provincial, regional, municipal or private may be considered as being a perimeter park area if it provides overnight travel accommodation to visitors using Algonquin for day use, camping, canoeing or other purposes.

Waterways. Wild and scenic rivers provide a linear form of park development linking Algonquin with perimeter parks. They also provide a regional network of canoeing, boating and camping opportunities encompassing a diversity of physical and recreational environments. In addition to access and development areas, they extend 400 feet horizontally from the high water mark on both sides of the waterway.

Scenic Road Access Corridors. Scenic road access corridors link Algonquin with perimeter parks and the ring of major highways surrounding the Park. They are developed to provide visitors with an opportunity to relate to the special landscape qualities of the Algonquin region through the utilization of parkway criteria and standards.

Outfitting Areas. An outfitting area is an establishment where visitors may rent or buy essentials for outdoor recreation. No accommodation is provided and access from outfitting areas to the Park may be by water, trail or road. Perimeter areas therefore offer an alternative to the development of concession facilities within the Park.

Tourist Centres. Tourist centres are private developments including hotels, motels, supply and souvenir stores which offer accommodation and services to tourists who use Algonquin Park. These centres should be established within the framework of a regional planning system. They supplant long ribbons of commercial development stretching out over the countryside. A small tourist centre might include motel or hotel accommodation for non-campers, a service station, campers' supplies and rental equipment such as tent trailers and canoes. The establishment of such areas can play a crucial role in the preservation of the environment along scenic road access corridors and major highways leading up to the Park.

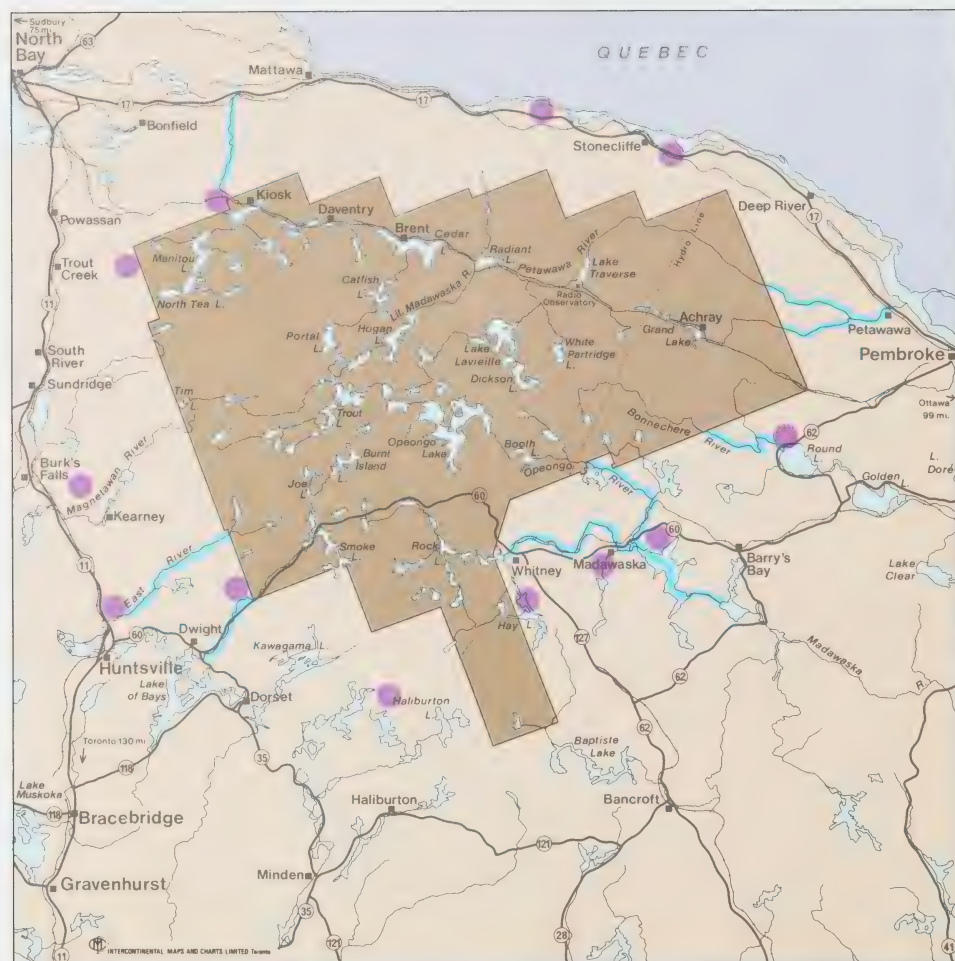
Additions to Algonquin Park. Small additions are required within the perimeter program to provide access control, to consolidate entire canoe routes within the Park or to add to an area's canoe-camping capacity to allow the establishment of a new access point from an adjacent boundary area.

Interior Access Points. Interior access points are places where visitors may leave their cars and gain access on foot or by water into the interior. Each access point is designed to function in association with specific perimeter system components. Additions to the proposed system of interior access points should not be considered as they would upset the system of interior waterway use. Changes should be considered only as they are required in adjusting interior use distribution and perimeter development.

Summary

The perimeter program is intended to scale down internal development so the character of Algonquin Park may be retained. In addition, the concept proposes to encourage the development of a responsible private sector including private parks, concessionaires, motels and hotels in a manner which is complementary to the Park. The program will limit internal concessionaire development which could commercialize Algonquin. Finally, the perimeter system will provide accommodation and services for that future time when further internal development of the Park will not be desirable and the demands of Algonquin visitors will have to be partially fulfilled through exterior developments.

Generalized location of Perimeter Recreation Parks, Wild and Scenic Rivers

 North



Types of Visitors

The potential users of perimeter areas will probably fall into three categories. The first of these are people on a vacation route which includes Algonquin Park. They may visit and camp at various other locations. During periods of peak use, and in the future when the development capacity of Algonquin is reached, the perimeter system will accommodate overflow users. This second group will have Algonquin Park as their primary destination, but may have to use the perimeter system as a waiting place. The third group will likely consist of people who use a perimeter park as a base of operations while visiting adjacent areas of interest including Algonquin Park. A thorough knowledge of tourist characteristics is necessary to coordinate and properly plan the perimeter system. Gaps in existing information should be filled in during the 1975 to 1979 planning period. Existing data on Algonquin day users and campers suggest that to some extent a perimeter system is already functioning. For example, more than twenty-five percent of day users come from or are going to hotels or resorts in the area.

Land Characteristics

The perimeter program involves areas inside and outside Algonquin Park. Recreational use will intricately link these areas.

Perimeter Parks

The perimeter parks will not be miniature replicas of Algonquin. Areas should be selected primarily for their development potential. They will most closely parallel the larger recreation parks of the provincial park system which contain proportionately large areas developed and used only on an extensive basis. Since some of these parks will function as vacation areas as well as for overnight accommodation, they will include opportunities for the more conventional activities such as swimming, fishing and boating. Cultural, historic and natural values should be regarded as additional benefits rather than as criteria for selecting perimeter parks. When compared with Algonquin, perimeter parks will generally be intensively developed and offer modern services and conveniences. In this way, it will be possible to avoid further introduction of urban life amenities in the Park. In the case of the public sector components within the perimeter system, the most important physical characteristics relate to time and space relationships with Algonquin and the Algonquin qualities which are accessible from the perimeter areas.

Algonquin Park

The concept for perimeter development implies a central nucleus with an attraction to weld the system together. This central nucleus is Algonquin Park and from this centre the perimeter areas receive their attractiveness. The perimeter areas selected should therefore be as close as possible to the Park and related internal use areas should be representative of the Algonquin environment. The activities designed for each access point will represent the total environment in the interior area in question. To accomplish this, a full range of acceptable recreational use related components will be identified. These components may be considered as being: a general development component; a site development component; a canoeing component; a wildlife component; a geological component; an historical component; and a vegetative component. When analysis is completed, a visual picture is given of the area involved which identifies where components overlap or may relate to one another. This represents the broadest spectrum of experience available; however, delivery depends upon the effectiveness of the perimeter information and interpretation programs. A description of the various components follows:

(1) *General Development Component.* This involves areas which exhibit minor limitations to a general pattern of interior development. The three main variables considered are major topographical, water or ground condition limitations and scenic potential.

(2) *Site Development Component.* Areas are selected through detailed aerial photography interpretation, Ontario Land Inventory recreational resource mapping and on-site investigation. These areas should have level terrain suitable for campsite development, water potential for swimming and other interior water-oriented recreational activities, desirable forest cover, dry and stable ground conditions, especially on trails and campsites, and good climatic conditions.



(3) *Canoeing Component.* The canoeing component considers areas which may provide a variety of day or extended canoeing and sailing experiences which fully utilize the recreational capabilities of Park watersheds. Each experience type is based upon a special set of criteria.

(4) *Wildlife Component.* The areas selected contain wildlife concentrations, provide special environments required by wildlife or have high capability for wildlife management programs. The wildlife component includes a fish component based on lake and stream capability, species representation and distribution, access and zone type.

(5) *Geological Component.* Major geological conditions that are capable of explaining the general origin of the Algonquin Highlands' landscape and any special or unique formations are considered.

(6) *Historical Component.* This involves areas exhibiting evidence of human interaction with the Algonquin environment. In most instances the historical component would refer to artifactual evidence, while man's influence upon other components such as vegetation or geology would be included in that description.

(7) *Vegetative Component.* The vegetative component includes forest conditions, ground cover and aquatic situations scientifically selected as representing the full scope of vegetative conditions within the area considered.

Locational Factors

The discussion of locational factors relates both to spatial and temporal characteristics associated with the perimeter program.

Spatial Characteristics

Spatial characteristics refer to relationships between areas that can be expressed in terms of space or distance. Two aspects of this need to be considered: (a) the relationship between the perimeter areas and Algonquin Park, and (b) between individual perimeter areas.

The desirable spatial relationship which perimeter areas should have with the Park, depending upon potential access quality, ranges out from the boundary for a distance of 15 to 20 miles. General knowledge of Park users and the partial perimeter system now in operation would indicate that a maximum of 40 miles might be the limit of the sphere of influence of the Algonquin perimeter recreation system.

The spatial relationships between perimeter areas have important implications for management, planning, interpretation and the distribution of information. Central areas of perimeter development should be selected to relate to each entrance area of Algonquin Park.

These core perimeter areas should consist of at least one provincial park and one tourist centre which are central in terms of spatial and temporal relationships to the other components (Figure 11).

Temporal Characteristics

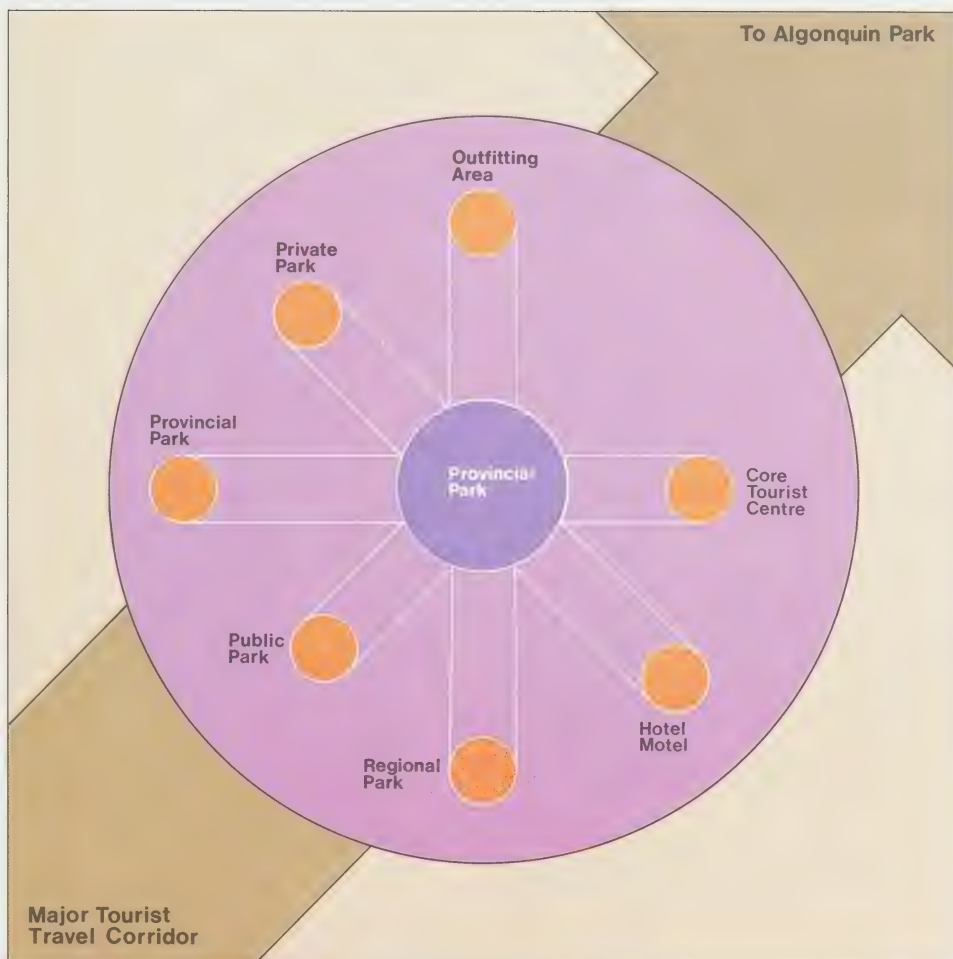
Temporal characteristics are relationships which can be expressed in terms of travel time. Three factors should be considered in establishing the temporal relationships of perimeter areas to Algonquin Park.

Travel time has a close relationship with the type and condition of road networks leading to the Park. This requires continuing consultation with provincial, regional and municipal highway and road planners to determine the nature of the evolving transportation network which will influence future accessibility to Algonquin Park.

The volume of tourist traffic should also be considered in locating perimeter areas. Highway use statistics and forecasts should be consulted to establish major tourist corridors relating to Algonquin Park.

Perimeter park units must be located on, or a short distance from, the major travel corridors. Present data on overnight use of Ontario provincial parks indicate a small time-distance factor probably not exceeding 10 miles or 15 minutes deviation from the major travel route. Even with Algonquin's attraction, the travel time from perimeter units to the Park should be a maximum of forty minutes to an hour.

A Core Perimeter Area





Communications

The word communication, as used here, includes all aspects of communications from simple information and orientation services to highly technical interpretive presentations, outdoor education programs and designed visitor experiences. A highly developed communication system is a requisite condition of perimeter development.

The communication pattern is established at the time a prospective Park visitor begins planning his trip. It is not terminated until the visitor has established his own method of relating to the Park environment.

Preparatory

(A) *Home Town*. The nature of communication at the visitor origin level is partially established and plans for the future were discussed in the corridor plan. In addition, the zoning system should be shown on the Park map. This is necessary in fostering an initial understanding of the nature of Algonquin Park. A second requirement, necessary to identify the perimeter system with the Park and to ensure its functioning as an intradependent single unit, is to name the entire complex the *Algonquin Provincial Park system*.

(B) *On Route*. The information distributed on route should be essentially the same as that distributed at home. This function is currently being performed by Ministry of Industry and Tourism centres, various regional tourist associations, other provincial parks, and by individuals in the private sector working at motels, hotels and other establishments.

Perimeter Areas

The establishment of a perimeter system will require a new set of communication patterns and functions. The perimeter areas will be operated as internal Algonquin development areas and function as overflow use facilities. This will require the establishment of a communications system to relay the level of interior use to the perimeter parks. Interior access points will disseminate information on use to the central provincial park in each core perimeter area. The central provincial park, in turn, will be responsible for passing information on to the other perimeter units. When Algonquin campgrounds are filled to capacity, the provincial park must intercept prospective visitors prior to their arrival at Algonquin Park.

Algonquin Park

The information and interpretation services within Algonquin Park should be developed on a much more sophisticated level and intensified to provide for use increases associated with the perimeter program.

Communication services fall into three categories: group impersonal, group personal and individual. Group impersonal services include information services and interpretive presentations which relate general qualities and the character of the Park to visitors. Much of this type of communication could be conducted within the perimeter unit.

Group personal services involve presentations and group discussions by and with interpreters. Conducted hikes, slide talks and wolf howls are extremely effective.

The development of group personal services is an integral part of the site selection-site development program. Only in this way can the communicative processes be properly integrated with such developments as campgrounds, day use areas or viewpoints.

Individual interpretation is the ultimate aim of the communications program. Individual communication encourages and facilitates a personal understanding and appreciation of the Park. While every segment of the communication pattern includes individual interpretation and understanding, no one segment individually challenges the visitor's experience and expectations. There is, and will be, a deeper need to encourage individual interpretive processes. These are best developed through displays, restorations and other means which lead directly to a real situation on the ground. Unfortunately the communication process is often dropped after the initial contact and the visitor is left without opportunity to further his new interest.



Strategy

Detailed development of the perimeter concept will take place during the period from 1975 to 1979. Emphasis to date has been placed upon the study of potential interior access points, additions to the Park, wild and scenic rivers, scenic road access corridors and perimeter parks. During the next phase, regional and local municipalities, as well as other involved government agencies and interest groups, will be consulted in designating the central provincial parks, the core areas of perimeter development, and completing the units of each area including provincial parks, other public parks, private parks, hotels, motels, resort and service areas. During this period, provincial parks of the perimeter areas will be reserved, acquisition completed, and master planning, site planning and development initiated.

Because of its importance in communications and interpretation, the central provincial park in each core perimeter area will normally be established first. Other phases of each perimeter development area should proceed as required under the pressures of public use. Development grants for various units of each perimeter core may be available through various provincial and federal agencies. The operation of units within any perimeter area must be the responsibility of the individual agency or private developer controlling the unit.

Program

While considerable public dialogue is required before the perimeter system can be fully designated, enough information is available to discuss broadly the needs associated with five components of the system; Park additions, interior access points, perimeter parks, waterways, and scenic road access corridors. A number of elements of these components have been designated within the system (Figure 2). These are primarily existing access points and provincial parks.

The region surrounding Algonquin Park has been subdivided into four zones, namely: the southeast, the east and north, the west, and the southwest.

The Southeast

The southeastern zone is bounded by the portion of the boundary lying between the southeastern corner of Bruton Township and the southeastern corner of Master Township.

Additions:

An addition to the Park is required to allow the development of a canoe route between Galeairy Lake and Booth Lake. This would provide a much needed linkage between the southern and northern portions of the interior at the eastern end of the corridor.

A second addition is required to improve access to the waterways in Preston and Clancy Townships from the perimeter parks in the Madawaska Valley.

Interior Access Points:

There are a number of existing and proposed access points to the southeastern portion of the Park. These are, from west to east,

Birch Bay (Hay Lake)—This point provides the best access to the isolated recreational resources of Clyde and Bruton Townships.

Galeairy Lake—Galeairy Lake provides water access from the village of Whitney west into the southern portion of the Park and potentially north into the remainder of the interior.

Roads in Clyde and Bruton Townships—With the exception of the access road to Kingscote Lake and the hydro line service road through Clyde Township, these roads will be closed when the canoe routes in this area are fully developed. During the deer and moose season, members of parties holding hunt camp sites will be issued keys.

Rapid Lake—A limited amount of access is anticipated and considered acceptable from this location through Lobster Lake to Hardtack Lake and Boot Lake.

Crotch Lake—Current access at Crotch Lake is being reconsidered. The area is too close to use patterns originating from Opeongo Lake and access corridor aesthetics are impaired by the Minden—DesJoachims hydro line. Road improvement costs are high. Crotch Lake is not central to the waterways in Preston and Clancy Townships or to potential perimeter park sites in the Madawaska Valley.

Basin Depot Road—The public may now travel about ten miles into the Park on this road during the operating season. This road will be closed to the public three miles within the Park at Basin Lake. This will still allow travel on the Bonnechere River and the Pine River. A small, car campground will be developed at Basin Lake.

Madawaska River, Opeongo River, Bonnechere River—The physical nature of these rivers only allows trippers to descend from the Park, with the exception of upstream trips from Bonnechere Provincial Park to Basin Lake on the Bonnechere River.



Perimeter Parks:

Bonnechere Provincial Park—This 250 acre park is linked by the Bonnechere River to a proposed development in the Park at Basin Lake. Phasing of development will continue in line with demand.

Basin Lake Campground—Basin Lake has excellent campground development potential and is capable of sustaining use associated with about 125 sites without interaction with existing or potential interior use. The area is three miles within the Park. A small recreation zone has been established encircling Basin Lake (Figure 2). This development will properly service existing use patterns on the Basin Depot Road and allow the road to be closed to the public beyond Basin Lake. There are several other potential perimeter park sites in the southeastern section. In all areas, once the locations of perimeter parks are determined, the basic implementation strategy during the first phase from 1975 to 1979 will involve land acquisition, park reserve establishment and master planning. During this period, certain perimeter parks in each of the four sections of the planning area will be developed and put into operation. The balance of the perimeter parks will be phased into operation as they are developed during the course of the following five-year period.

Waterways:

Waterways not only provide a form of linear park development linking Algonquin with the perimeter parks, they also provide a regional network of canoeing, boating and camping opportunities encompassing a diversity of physical and recreational environments. There are several potential waterways in the southeastern section.

Scenic Road Access Corridors:

Scenic road access corridors will link major highways, Algonquin and perimeter parks. They should relate visitors to the special landscape qualities of the Algonquin region through the use of parkway criteria and standards. There will be a 100-foot cutting reservation on either side of these roads. Scenic road potential is good in the southeastern zone.

The East and North

The eastern and northern zone is bounded by the portion of the boundary between the southeastern corner of Master Township and the northwestern corner of Ballantyne Township.

Additions:

Brent Crater—Nearly 2,500 acres will be added here. The crater straddles the boundary and will be a natural zone when it is entirely within the Park.

Brain and Stretch Lakes—Nearly 2,000 acres of Crown land will be added at this location. An interior access point at this location will provide excellent scenic water access to the Cedar-Cauchon Lake area. Road improvements are needed to provide an attractive access route from Highway 17. This area and Wendigo Lake will replace existing road access to Brent.

Lauder Lake—This addition encompasses 1,300 acres of Crown land. Lauder Lake straddles the boundary and the addition would put the entire lake within Algonquin. Access to this lake is from within the Park by water from Kioshkowi Lake. It has excellent potential for short distance, destination-oriented interior camping.

Two other relatively small additions may be required to improve access control in this portion of the region surrounding Algonquin Park.

Interior Access Points:

The changes in interior access at places like Lake Traverse, Basin Lake and the Sand Lake road system are components of a broad strategy. In the east, unlike other sections of the Park, recreational resources are largely concentrated along waterways and associated ridge systems. Access to the recreational resources of the area is by roads which penetrate deeply into the interior. Development of facilities is limited. Visitors have hacked out campsites at access points, the Ministry picks up garbage and has spotted a few earth pit privies.

Rather than provide access internally to the east side resources, which is contrary to basic Park concepts, access will be from the nearest external point and be accompanied by development of appropriate facilities. For example, access point development at the Grillage Rapids will give access to the Lake Traverse area by scenic road from Driftwood Provincial Park.

Existing and proposed points to the eastern and northern portions of the Park are described here from east to west.

Mallard Lake (Sec Lake)—The present road access to Sec Lake will be relocated at Mallard Lake to provide better parking facilities and more effective access and use controls over visitor activities in this small interior unit.



Stratton Lake (Sand Lake Road System)—The public may now drive many miles into the interior during the operating season on the Sand Lake road system. Lake Traverse, Grand Lake, McManus Lake and Stuart's Spur are accessible from this road. This will be replaced by a year-round road to a 250-site campground at Stratton Lake. A mix of car, hike-in and paddle-in sites is planned. Access to Lake Traverse and vicinity will be by the Grillade Rapids access point.

Grillade Rapids—An access point will be developed upstream from the Grillade Rapids to provide access to the Lake Traverse area and the lower Petawawa River. This stretch of the Petawawa River is the best known canoeing area on the east side of the Park. Good hiking potential exists.

Big Bissett Lake—Big Bissett Lake provides access to the waterways in Fitzgerald Township. These waters are isolated from the main core of the interior routes.

Wendigo Lake—Wendigo Lake provides access to Radiant Lake and the Petawawa River system. The importance of this location will increase with the elimination of the access point and Ministry development at Brent, the access to North River Lake via the North River and the public road to Brent. Persons having homes at Brent will continue to be allowed to use the Brent Road.

Brain Lake—This access point was described in the addition discussion at this location.

Boulter Lake—Interior access will be redirected here from Kiosk. Space is limited at Kiosk and visitors must drive through the village. Access from Boulter Lake down the Amable du Fond River can also be developed to avoid Kiosk.

Petawawa River, Barron River, Amable du Fond River—The physical nature of these rivers only allows trippers to descend on them from the Park. The Department of National Defense currently restricts travel on the Petawawa River through Base Petawawa. Trips must be terminated at McManus Lake.

Perimeter Parks:

Stratton Lake Campground—Stratton Lake, although situated within the Park, is incorporated as part of the perimeter system as no suitable development area is available externally. This lake is central to the only east side area having a significant visitor carrying capacity and from which interior use can be effectively dispersed. It has excellent campground capability and can easily accommodate 250 car, hike-in or paddle-in sites in the recreation zone which encircles the lake (Figure 2). The Stratton Lake area has an extremely rich diversity of high quality recreational resources, natural and historical features. The interpretive potential is excellent. Development will be staged in the first five-year phase to meet, in particular, existing regional demand which to date has not been accommodated by planned developments.

Driftwood Provincial Park—This 900 acre recreation park relates to Algonquin Park and the Upper Ottawa River. Linkages with the Park will include the access roads to Big Bissett Lake and the Grillade Rapids and possibly a canoe route on Grant's Creek. Phasing of development will continue over both periods in line with demand.

There are a number of other potential perimeter park sites in the eastern and northern section of the region surrounding Algonquin Park.

Waterways:

The nature of the drainage patterns in this zone limits the number of potential waterway components.

Scenic Road Access Corridors:

Opportunities to develop scenic road access corridors are particularly good in this area. Highway 630 currently follows the Amable du Fond Valley and is an excellent example of the opportunity such developments offer.

The West

The western zone is bounded by the portion of the boundary between the northwestern corner of the Park in Ballantyne Township and the southwestern corner in Finlayson Township.

Additions:

Big Bob Lake—Addition of this 600 acre area of Crown land will limit access and provide canoe route linkages which are needed to develop and use effectively the canoe-camping potential in the west-central part of the Park.

Tim River—The purpose of adding this 220 acre area of Crown land to the Park is to control access to Tim Lake and the intensity of lake trout fishing.

Another small addition is required to ensure access to the waters of the northwestern portion of the Park.

Interior Access Points:

There are four access points and two departure points in the western area. These are, from north to south:

Kawawaymog Lake—This lake provides access to the northwest corner of the Park from Highway 11.

Tim Lake—This access point, like Magnetawan Lake and Rain Lake, relates to Arrowhead Provincial Park. A greater density of interior access points is developed in this area to compensate for the lower carrying capacity of individual route segments. This relates to the smaller average size of lakes in the western uplands.

Magnetawan Lake—This development recently replaced David Lake to improve access control and to eliminate an interaction with trippers. Butt Lake is the focal point of most interior day use in this area.

Rain Lake—Rain Lake, like Tim and Magnetawan, provides access to an area of small lakes having limited carrying capacity when compared to other interior access points. Access point camping will be eliminated at Rain Lake in 1975.

Big East River and Oxtongue River—The physical nature of these two rivers only allows trippers to descend from the Park on them.

Perimeter Parks:

Arrowhead Provincial Park—Arrowhead and Algonquin are linked by Highway 60 and the East River. The existing 400 campsites will be maintained. The Tim, Magnetawan and Rain Lake access points are also accessible.

There are a very limited number of other potential perimeter park sites in the western zone.

Waterways:

While scenic and wild river park potential is limited within the western zone, considerable additional canoe route potential exists. The upper reaches of the Magnetawan system are perhaps most significant in this respect. This and other routes will be developed and maintained.

Scenic Road Access Corridors:

Opportunities to develop scenic road access corridors are good in this zone, linking Highway 11 with Kawawaymog, Tim, Magnetawan and Rain Lakes.

**The Southwest**

The southwestern zone is bounded by the portion of the boundary lying between the southwestern corner of the Park in Finlayson Township and the southeastern corner of Bruton Township.

Additions:

Two additions and one reserve associated with Algonquin are proposed in the southwestern zone.

Old Pine Reserve—This 410 acre reserve under the Public Lands Act is the best known overmature white pine forest in the Algonquin Park area. It is adjacent to the Park boundary in Livingstone Township and serves a natural zone function, but external to the Park (Figure 2).

Ragged and Porcupine Lakes—The purpose of adding 2,600 acres of Crown land here is to provide ground and aircraft access control.

McRae Property—This 15,700 acre property has been purchased and is now partially within the Park. Its canoe-camping potential will assist in providing for Haliburton-based interior use demand. Additional area is required to provide effectively for this demand.

One other small area is required in this region to provide access control and consolidate an existing canoe route entirely within the Park.

Interior Access Points:

There are no interior access points in the southwestern zone.

Two are proposed.

Wildcat Lake—Access via this lake from the Kennisis Lake area will permit use of the historic Wildcat route and thus provide needed access to Algonquin from Haliburton.

Kingscote Lake—The access point on this lake will be linked with the interior canoe route network through portage development from Kingscote to the Minnow Lakes and Branch Lake.



Perimeter Parks:

There are a very limited number of potential perimeter park sites in the southwestern zone.

Waterways:

While no waterways have been identified within the southwestern zone, there is considerable potential for canoe routes. A number of canoe routes are already being maintained and plans call for the expansion of the routes in this area.

Scenic Road Access Corridors:

Scenic road potential is limited in this portion of the region surrounding Algonquin Park.

Program Summary and Scheduling

The land acquisition associated with the perimeter program will be carried on over the next four to five years. The master, site, interpretive and development planning required for each area will be carried out according to the following schedule.

Additions:

Six areas, composed entirely of Crown lands, will be added immediately:

Ragged and Porcupine Lakes	Lauder Lake
Brent Crater	Big Bob Lake
Brain and Stretch Lakes	Tim River.

The entire McRae property will not be added to Algonquin until the previous owner exercises the cutting rights that were conditional in the sale, or they expire in 1979.

The Old Pine reserve in Livingstone Township is not proposed as an addition, but rather a reserve under the Public Lands Act. Discussions of other additions will be actively on-going during 1974 between the Ministry and owners within the areas, regional and local interests and officials.

The total area involved in the 7 areas currently being added to Algonquin Park is approximately 25,000 acres. These will become part of the Algonquin Park District as they are added to the Park.

Interior Access Points:

Development of the new access points and changes in existing locations are scheduled in the table on pages 96 and 97. In all, there will be 28 access points and 8 departure points. Additional interior access point development should not be considered.

Perimeter Parks:

Twelve perimeter parks are envisioned. There are 615 sites in the three existing perimeter parks. By 1980 this number could increase to 2,000 sites in 9 parks. In 1985, when the system is fully developed, there could be nearly 4,000 sites. Campsites in Algonquin will increase from the current level of 2,525, to 3,575 in 1980 and the final capacity of the Park of 3,875 in 1985. The overall campsite capacity of the Algonquin Provincial Park system considering Algonquin, the perimeter parks, scenic and wild rivers is probably more than 8,000 sites.

Once perimeter recreation park locations have been determined, the areas involved will be immediately established as park reserves. Patented parcels will be automatically added to the reserves as they are acquired. There may be cases where patented lands do not interfere with or their uses complement planned Ministry programs in the reserves. These will not be acquired. The reserves will be designated as parks under the Provincial Parks Act following planning, development and preparation for operation.

Campsite development for Algonquin and the perimeter parks should be according to five-year development phases as indicated in the table on page 97. While some sites may be available during the interim, the numbers shown below would not be in operation until the end of each period. The campsite schedule also reflects the timing of day use, concession, information and interpretation facility development in perimeter parks.

Waterways:

Once the locations of scenic and wild river waterways have been determined, the areas involved will immediately be set aside as park reserves. Planning and development will proceed quickly to have these areas operating by the end of the first development phase in 1980. In certain areas, it may be necessary to schedule some development during the second phase.

Scenic Road Access Corridors:

Scenic road access corridors should be established with 100-foot reservations on all Crown land on either side of the right-of-way. All resource management and development should be controlled by appropriate standards. These will be developed and implemented during the master plan review period to ensure the aesthetic-environmental qualities of the corridors and to relate visitors to special landscape qualities through the use of parkway criteria and standards. Development on patented lands along these corridors should conform to standards and the Ministry should review all development plans.



Location	In Use now	1975-1976	1977-1978
<i>Parkway Corridor</i>			
Oxtongue River		x	
Canoe Lake	x		
Smoke Lake	x		
Source Lake	x		
Canisbay Lake		x	
Cache Lake	x		
Madawaska River between Rock Lake and Whitefish Lake	x		
Sunday Creek	x		
Opeongo Lake	x		
Pinetree Lake	x		
<i>Southeast</i>			
Hay Lake	x		
Galeairy Lake	x		
Roads in Clyde and Bruton		x	
	(phase out except to Kingscote Lake and the hydro line road)		
Rapid Lake			x
Crotch Lake	x		
Basin Depot Road			x
	(being reconsidered)		
	(phase out when Basin Lake Campground opened)		
<i>East and North</i>			
Mallard Lake		x	
Stratton Lake			x
	(replaces Sec Lake)		
	(replace Sand Lake Road System when Stratton Lake Campground opened)		
Grillade Rapids			x
Big Bissett Lake		x	
Wendigo Lake			x
Brain Lake			x
Boulter Lake			x
	(replace Brent)		
	(replaces Kiosk)		
<i>West</i>			
Kawawaymog	x		
Tim Lake	x		
Magnetawan Lake	x		
Rain Lake	x		
<i>Southwest</i>			
National Lumber Company Road		x	
	(phase out when alternate road access provided outside the Park)		
Kingscote Lake		x	
Wildcat Lake			x



<i>Location</i>		<i>In Use now</i>	<i>1975-1976</i>	<i>1977-1978</i>
<i>Departure Points</i>				
Madawaska River				x
Opeongo River				x
Bonnechere River			x	
Barron River		x		
Petawawa River	(military land access problem)	x		
Amable du Fond River				x
East River				x
Oxtongue River			x	

		Phase 1	Phase 2
<i>Location</i>		Total Number of Sites in Operation	Total Number of Sites in Operation
<i>In Algonquin</i>			
Algonquin Parkway Corridor Campgrounds	(now 1,325 sites)	1,700	2,000
Stratton Lake Campground		250	250
Basin Lake Campground		125	125
Interior Sites	(now 1,200 including some car camping sites which will be phased out)	1,500	1,500
		3,575	3,875
<i>Perimeter Parks¹</i>			
Southeast	(now 115 sites)	675	1,350
East and North	(now 100 sites)	325	850
West	(now 400 sites)	550	950
Southwest	(no sites now)	500	800
		2,050	3,950
<i>Algonquin Park System Total</i>	<i>(now 3,140 sites)</i>	5,625	7,825

¹Five sites per acre is recommended as a maximum development density in perimeter park campgrounds versus three sites per acre in Algonquin Park.



Implementation

The policies and plans for Algonquin affect not only the Park but the surrounding region. Major changes have been prescribed which involve most resources and uses, particularly those associated with recreation and timber management. These changes, in turn, require implementation.

The first aspect of implementation involves the Algonquin Forestry Authority. This Crown corporation will harvest forest products and supply them to the manufacturing facilities currently dependent on supplies from the Park. The Authority will be directed by a Board supported by a professional and technical forestry staff who will be supervised by a General Manager. Congruent with the commercial orientation of the Authority, the Board's role and perspective should be focused on the Authority's business activities. The agency will be continually responsive to the Ministry through day-to-day contact between the General Manager and the Superintendent. The Board will not function as a mechanism to derive an economic-social balance in the policies of Algonquin Park. Imposing such a role would be likely to impair seriously the Board's ability to undertake its corporate task.

Although the Board of the Authority is not the appropriate place for the weighing of differing interests in Algonquin, it is desirable to establish a formal mechanism to conduct a master plan progress review between 1975 and 1979 to deal with this and other matters. An Advisory Committee on the Algonquin Provincial Park system will be established to advise the Minister on policy for the management of the system in relation to changing public needs and values. A second major role of the Advisory Committee will be to monitor and make recommendations on plan implementation and development during the master plan review period and by 1979, to recommend a full progress report on plan implementation, including direction for the future.

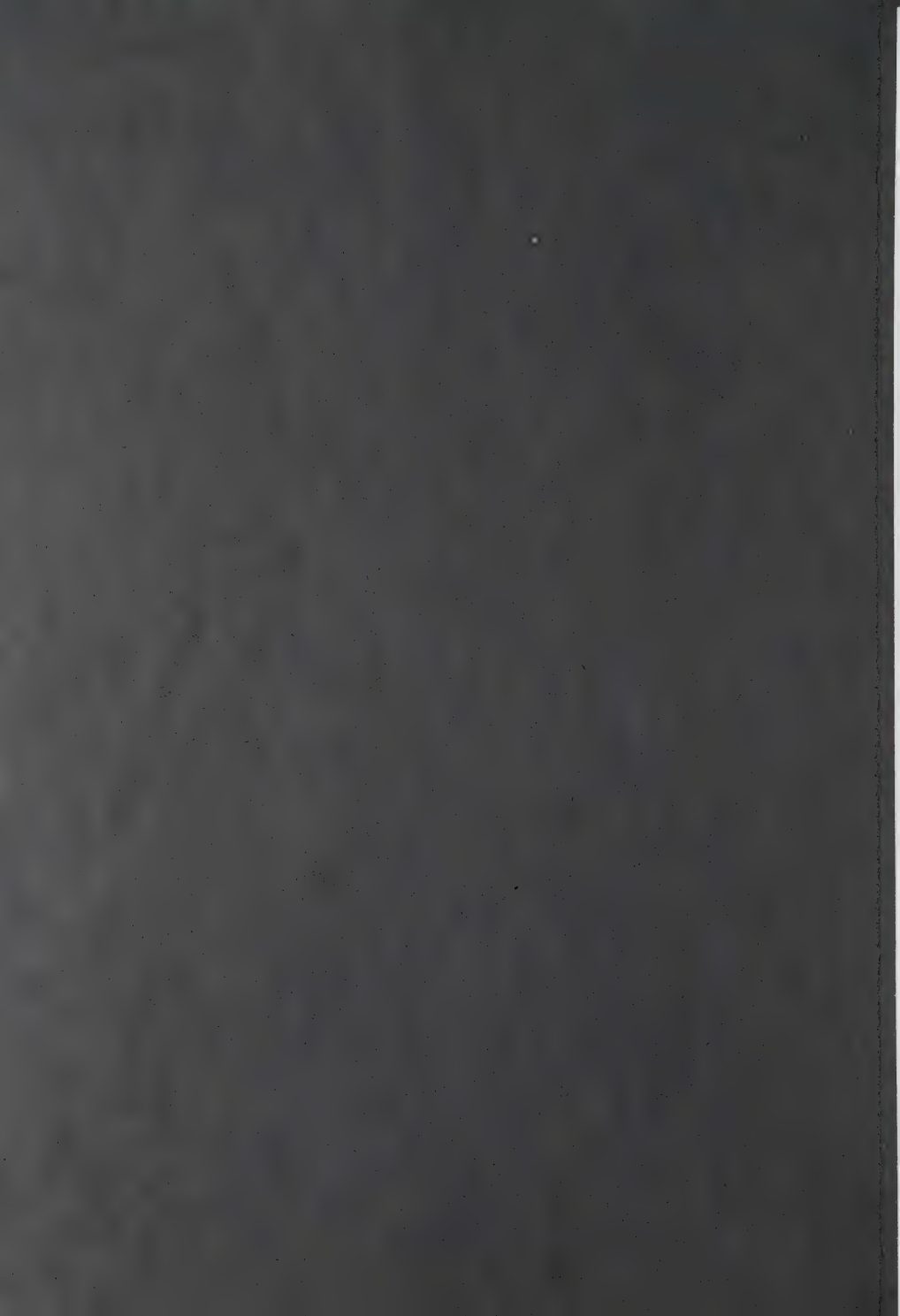
The five to seven-man Advisory Committee will have representation of the regional and provincial interests in the management of the Algonquin Provincial Park system. The Committee will be headed by a chairman, who like the members, will be appointed by the Minister for a two-year period and be eligible for reappointment.

There is also a need to coordinate the development of the Algonquin Provincial Park system. The direction required to ensure the system is planned, developed and operated as envisioned will be provided through a program dealing with the:

1. Preparation of policy and planning studies for the Advisory Committee.
 2. Coordination of Ministry policy, master, site, interpretive, development and management planning.
 3. Coordination, in consultation with other Ministries, of other public and private sector involvement and development within the perimeter areas.
 4. Audit of operational and development programs.
 5. Determination of the most effective means of integrating forest and recreational management in recreation/utilization zones in the Park.
 6. Management and planning of all resource programs to ensure their compatibility with the purpose and objectives of the Park and the system, and alignment with the strategies set forth in the master plan.
 7. Communication of policies and strategies directly to planning and operational staff, particularly park superintendents within the system.
 8. Preparation of policy and plan proposals for study by the program review committee described below.
- The final aspect of implementation involves the establishment of a program review committee consisting of senior staff. This committee will be responsible for program review within the Ministry relating to the Algonquin Park system and to the Algonquin Forestry Authority.

Historical Photograph Credits

- A Mrs E C Cross
- B George Marcy
- C Mr Loren Newman
- D Rose Thomas/Jack Wilkinson



Master Plan Index

The index is divided into two parts to make it somewhat more comprehensive. Part 1, the Contents Index, provides the reader with an alphabetical categorization of the six major concepts and policies presented: Algonquin Parkway Corridor (Highway 60); Goals; Interior Canoe-Camping Area; Objectives; Overall Plan; Perimeter Recreation System.

It is anticipated that with increased familiarity with the master plan, the reader will find the Contents Index of considerable value.

Part 2, the Subject Index, refers to the specifics of the master plan context. For simplicity, abbreviations are used in referring to the major concept and policy areas as follows:

PC, Algonquin Parkway Corridor (Highway 60); ICCA, Interior Canoe Camping Area; OP, Overall Plan; PRS, Perimeter Recreation System.

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Ministry of
Natural
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Minister

Dr. J. K. Reynolds
Deputy Minister

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